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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. X.—NO. 23. WEEKLY EDITION. APRIL 12, 1873.

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

HARRISBURG.

ALL ABOUT BARLEY.

At a meeting of the New York Farmers' Club, S. E. Todd was called upon to tell what he know about barley, and responded this way: "There are not less than six sub-species of barley cultivated both in the Old World and in America to a greater or less extent. The proper classification of these is: The hordeum vulgare, which is the same as the four rowed spring barley of commerce: hordeum disichum, the two rowed barley; hordeum hexastichum, six rowed barley; hordeum, coleste, Siberian barley; and hordeum nudum, the naked or skinless barley, and hordeum zeocriton, the battledore or sprat barley.

The varieties of barley are without number. A great many farmers have selected a few mixed ears and have cultivated the seed with care for a few years until sub-varieties, all having local names have been developed. I frequently go to the New York Exchange, the great grain market in this city—where I have learned of buyers and sellers that the barley in greatest demand and which will command the highest price per bushel is the hordeum vulgare, the four rowed Canadian barley. Last week the price of our State barley was easy at ninety-five cents per bushel, while Canada barley was held firmly at $1 25.

Canada barley is clean, bright and often has all of one variety, and so free from foul seed and other grain that one must search a long time before he can find a single kernel of any seed; whereas most of the State barley offered consists of a mixture of two rowed, four rowed and six rowed grain, much of it having a dark, weather beaten color, and with the mass is mingled more or less oats, wheat, buckwheat, and seeds of noxious weeds. All such grain and seeds will make no malt. Hence they detract greatly from the market value of the grain, as the small quantity found in every bushel will prove a dead loss to the maltsters. Besides this, when a quantity of four rowed, four rowed and six rowed grain is mixed together, one variety will be thoroughly sprouted before the remainder is grown sufficiently to have the germ start, and a second. Here, then, will occur another loss to the maltsters.

I sincerely wish that the standard of excellence in barley we may require shall be malt barley, for immense quantities of this kind of grain are employed for purposes which are not antagonistic to virtue and temperance, but, as this standard is established, let the tillers of the soil put forth a united effort for improving the quality of their barley to such an extent that the standard of excellence in the Canada barley may be reached, and shall yield the largest percentage of barley meal for loaves and for cakes.

The first step will be to procure an excellent quality of clean and pure seed. The seed must not only be free from wheat, oats, buckwheat and the seeds of weeds, but it must be the product of careful and judicious selection and superior culture for four or five successive seasons. We want the Simon pure hordeum vulgare four rowed barley, which, when sowed on good land of fair fertility, will produce the genuine hordeum vulgare with the same unerring certainty that a herd of Durham cattle is raised from a Durham bull and cows.

Then the seed must be kept pure with as much care as good farmers exercise in selecting their seed for a crop of Indian corn. If they were careful to do this, pure barley would soon command as much per bushel as Canada barley. A goodly number of State farmers, who raise bountiful crops of superior wheat, produce just as much barley per acre as is shipped from Canada. The best farmers never sow barley after barley or buckwheat, except when the crop is designed for feed. If practicable, barley is cultivated to the best advantage on soils of which there is a generous supply of silica and phosphoric acid. Generous top dressings of unleached ashes or caustic lime, will always aid materially in producing grain of a semi-translucent appearance; whereas the barley that is produced on a soil in which carbon preponderates in the form of muck, will usually be of an inferior grade.

A point of transcendent importance in the cultivation of barley is to have the grain ripen with the utmost practicable uniformity. To accomplish this object the seed must be harrowed at a uniform depth. If the seed is scattered broadcast and harrowed in, the feet of heavy teams will bury much of it so deep, that many of the ears will be only half filled, and much of the grain is fit to be harvested. Here will be a loss to the producer as well as to the maltster. If the soil is heavy the seed should be buried not over one inch deep, and on light land the seed should be put at least three inches deep. With a good seed drill this object can be attained, but when flat sowed the harrow throws the barley will grow unevenly, and will never mature with satisfactory uniformity. Besides this, more than half a bushel of seed per acre will be saved when a drill is employed, and the yield will often be ten bushels per acre larger than if the seed had been harrowed in.

FRUIT FOR CHILDREN.

Fruits have been marked as the special enemies of childhood—the things to be avoided at that age above all the rest. Farmers, unable to keep their children out of their orchards, have been known to cut down their fruit-trees so as to place the pernicious things beyond their reach; and nothing is more common than to hear men and women predicting that "the season is going to be sickly because there is so much fruit." It would be difficult to conceive of any notion more absurd than this; and yet it has had for many hundred years the sanction of the medical profession. One of the precepts that have come down to us from the most ancient school of medicine founded in Christendom contains a warning against the enjoyment of the gifts of Pomona—*Autumni fructus caveas, ne fiat tibi luctus*; and well and faithfully has the precept been inculcated by the successors of the family of Esculapius, the physicians of to-day, however, have begun at last to prevail over the heresy, and now physicians generally, when asked an opinion, say, "Eat all the fruit you want, the more the better." And childhood suffering could be more sensible than this answer. I am not sure that the sense of languor and lassitude so generally felt in spring is not owing to the want of fruit, which during the long winter months has been deficient in the diet, affording them a cooling juice, stuffing, a portion of the salts of earth we always find in the flesh of a horse at grass, and presents the nearest resemblance to the horse's natural footing—the earth. We have had a disease fall upon the town since the introduction of sawdust in the stable, now some years since. Horses bedded on sawdust are freer from dust and stains than when in ordinary litter, simply because saw dust is a non-conductor, perhaps, and testify their approval of it by frequently lying down for hours in the day. It has also the recommendation of being mentable—an advantage which all the owners of horses with the habit of eating their litter will admit."

FROM FORT WAYNE.

Appropriation for the Wabash and Erie Canal Refused—Anti-Temperance Lecture—Rumored Railroad Consolidation.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FORT WAYNE, IND., April 4, 1873.

The County Commissioners met last evening, in special session, to determine whether they would, on behalf of the county, make an appropriation of ten thousand dollars towards keeping up the Wabash and Erie Canal, as authorized by a late act of the Legislature. Judge Carson addressed them in opposition to the appropriation, when they adjourned until to-day. L. M. Ninde made a stirring speech this morning, also in opposition to the appropriation. Bird Bowman followed and spoke ing in its favor. A number of other gentlemen addressed the Commissioners both for and against the appropriation. Mr. Colton in his address stated that the Toledo, Wabash and Western Railroad had offered two million dollars for the canal, and that Mr. Drummond, acting for that road, had purchased all the bonds issued on the canal. He urged the Commissioners in strong terms to make the appropriation. The Commissioners, after some time in debate among themselves in discussing the matter, decided against the appropriation.

Rudolph Wenk, editor of the Indiana *Volksfreund*, addressed a large audience in Colerick's Opera House to-night in opposition to the Prohibitory law.

It is rumored that the Ft. Wayne, Muncie and Cincinnati Railroad Company will soon consolidate with the Detroit, Ft. Wayne and Logansport Railroad.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

Early Completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 7.—The Northern Pacific Railroad Committee, consisting of Vice-President Rice, of Maine, Mr. Moorehead, of Philadelphia, Frederick Billings, of Vermont, Engineer in Chief M. Milner Roberts will arrive this morning to the East, having completed on favorable terms arrangements for the extension of the road northward during the present year to a practical connection between the two already completed sections of the waters of Puget Sound. The committee on Saturday, by telegraph, put men at work on the line. With this railroad connection secure to the navigable system of Oregon as well as the navigable waters of the Columbia are put in connection by rail with the waters of Puget Sound. The committee deemed it inexpedient to press the immediate prosecution of the work on that part of the line between the navigable waters of the Columbia and Lake Pend. It is necessary to make arrangements in the fall for getting out cross ties and bridge timber, which can only be obtained in the mountains in winter and must be floated down during the spring rise of the streams.

HARRISBURG.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., April 3, 1873.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

When the House assembled, Mr. Newmeyer reported on the new State Treasury bill, which was laid on the table.

The new charter was messaged from the Senate, but the Allegheny delegation could not agree to the amendments and a Committee of Conference will probably be put on it.

Libel Bill Defeated.

Mr. Brockway's bill was then defeated:

YEAS—Messrs. Bailey, Baird, Beach, Brockway, Brungs, Conrad, Darrah, Dartt, Day, Egan, Greenwalt, Hadcock, Berry, Hepburn, Hetzel, Hildebrand, Hunsicker, Jones, King, Laidley, Latta, Lowabe, Lawson, McGeary, McGregor, Mark, Morris, Neemyer, Pudlin, Smith, Sr Eay-tie; Staples, Steckel, Stier, Williams, of Cumberland; Young—37.

NAYS—Messrs. Allison, Ammerman, Ash, Ballentine, Banks, Bowman, Bryan, Bullard, Berkbeiler, Bucas, Bailey, Darkely, Dewitt, Jones, of Potter; Kaufman, Belagel, Kaufman, of Schuylkill; Long, Lann, Lowering, McCommick, McCullough, of Philadelphia; McMillen, Mahon, Myer, Mitchell, Morford, Newell, Nyce, Potter, Price, Pyle, Ramey, Reynolds, Schminky, Shortt, Shuler, Smith, of Philadelphia; Titlemary, Vodges, Wainright, Welsh, Wilcox, Williams, of Luzerne; Wolf, Speaker—47.

The General Appropriations.

The Appropriation bill, as agreed to by the Conference Committee, contains the following items: Western Penitentiary, $30,000; Western Pennsylvania Hospital, $25,000; Western Pennsylvania Reform School, $46,000; Homeopathic Hospital, $10,000; Jefferson College, $10,000. The bill also gives $50,000 for the Constitutional Convention. The Western items were stricken out. This bone of contention being now out of the way, it is more than probable that the House will concur in the 10th of April adjournment.

To-night the session will be for reports from committees. But very few of the bills now reported can get through.

The Night Session.

Mr. Smith, of Fayette, reported a bill relative to roads.

Mr. Ramsey—A supplement to the Franklin Savings fund, locating its principal office in Pittsburgh.

Mr. Newmeyer—A supplement to the Freeport and Allegheny County Railroad; supplement to the Monongahela Bridge Company Railroad.

Mr. Laidley, of Greene, from the Committee on Roads and Bridges, reported favorably the bill requiring the Monongahela Bridge Company to commence the erection of a new bridge from Smithfield street, in accordance with the charter obtained in July, 1871, within three months from the passage of act, and compelling the finishing of the same within two years. The bill also repeals the bridge bill, and conflicts with the act passed at the last session at the request of City Councils one year ago.

Bills were read in place as follows:

Mr. Sample—Extending certain privileges to Reverend Joseph Kavanagh, Allegheny county.

Mr. Wainwright—Act relating to the taking up of logs, lumber and flatboats in the Allegheny, Monongahela and Ohio rivers.

SENATE.

The following bills were reported:

Act relative to interpreter of the Courts of Allegheny county; also, act relative to Erie Savings Bank.

The following bills were passed:

Incorporating Turtle Creek Valley Railroad.

The act repealing laws exempting property from taxation was finally agreed upon.

Oil Inspection Struggle.

At the afternoon session the bill relative to the appointment of oil inspectors and the inspection of oil passed to a third reading after considerable discussion.

Special to Pittsburgh-Allegheny Charter.

Both Houses having disagreed to the new charter, it was referred to a committee of conference consisting of Messrs Humphreys and Graham on the part of the Senate and Messrs. Newmeyer and McCormick on the part of the House.

The Oil Fire Test Bill.

The passage of the fire test oil bill of Col. Hamilton's was then called up and to-day of the last legislative moves this session. Amendment after amendment was offered only to be rejected by a solid vote of the Allegheny delegation of refiners here compliment him highly.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., April 4, 1873.

Very little Western business was done in the House to-day.

The School Directors of the Fifth ward, Pittsburgh, were authorized to borrow money, and the German Improvement Company bill was passed.

Bills Signed.

The Governor has signed the Insurance Department bill, and appointed Montgomery Foster Commissioner.

The Union Savings and Deposit Bank bill, which had been recalled from the Governor, was taken up and signed by the Governor late this afternoon.

The Appropriations.

A lengthy debate was had in the House on reconsidering the report of conference on the General Appropriation bill.

Triumph of the Oil Men.

The delegation of oil men had a triumph in the Senate by the passage of their bill. Senator Graham stood up manfully for the measure, and notwithstanding the benzine dealers were here in force, John Warden and ex-Mayor Brush worked like Severn. Senator Humphreys voted with the oilmen the entire thing to Mr. Warden.

Mr. Newmeyer called up the new Treasury bill, but there were fifty bills ahead of it on third reading, so it had to take its course.

Recorded Their Votes.

Messrs. Sandoe and Bird Bowman had their votes recorded in favor of the Brockway libel law. The Senate holds a session to-night. Nothing special.

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, April 7, 1873.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at three o'clock.

Mr. Ballentine—Mr. Speaker, I rise on a privileged question.

The Chairman—The gentleman will state his question of privilege.

Mr. Ballentine—On last Friday I visited the Governor, in company with a number of gentlemen connected with the oil refining interests of Pittsburgh, to procure favorable action on a very important bill which had passed both branches of this Legislature by an almost unanimous vote. The bill was under the special order for Tuesday by a vote of 70 to 21.

Committee to Wait on President Grant.

A resolution was offered appointing a committee to wait on President Grant and invite him to the House. Messrs. Mitchell, Lawshe and Smith, of Philadelphia, were appointed.

President Grant was escorted to the House by Senators Wallace and Cameron. He was then, on the Speaker's stand, Speaker Elliott said: Mr. President —On behalf of the members of the House of Representatives, I have the honor to welcome you to the Hall of the House.

General Grant replied: Gentlemen, members of the Assembly of Pennsylvania, I am very glad to meet you here on this occasion. I am pleased to see and hope the legislation of this great State may be such as will assist to develope the immense wealth which is in it and to bring it to the front rank as it already come so much to develope.

The gentlemen were then invited to ling and in a few moments, accompanied by Treasurer Mackey, Mr. Cameron and others, he left the House.

Conference Report on Appropriations

On the motion to recommit the report of the Conference Committee on the Appropriation bill, Mr. Brown, of Erie, suggested the propriety of instructing Hensel to strike out the University of Philadelphia, $100,000, the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, $100,000, and the appropriation for the Veterinary Hospital, $6,000, and by striking out these, all charitable institutions will be on an equal footing. Either put these out or put all the others in. I am opposed to allowing two rich Philadelphia institutions to gobble up $200,000 at the expense of all the small charities of the State. If I mistake not, this Philadelphia University has lately sold their lot to the United States for half a million dollars for a new post office site. Why should we give them $100,000 more? No one in either branch of this Legislature has attempted to except it, and I hope the Western members will stay here till "dog days" before they will yield one inch from the position we have taken.

SENATE.

The act authorizing the School Directors of St. Clair township to borrow money, and the act to authorize the paving and grading of Carnegie avenue, Pittsburgh, were passed.

Mr. Mackey read an act for the relief of the suffers of Parker's Landing. Lost. Lost to repeal all laws taxing bonds of cities, boroughs and other corporations.

Mr. Randall offered a supplement to the Oil bill passed last week, repealing certain portions of the original bill and vesting the inspectorships in dangerous fluids. The bill was lost by a large vote.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, April 5, 1873.

No day of final adjournment has yet been fixed, the House having postponed the resolution on that subject until Monday night; yet both Houses are acting on the presumption that the adjournment will take place on the 16th. The House has fixed two sessions for Monday at 3 and 7 P. M. to work up unfinished business and pass House bills not yet acted on, because the joint rules forbid the transmission of bills originating in one House to the other later than three days before final adjournment, and the Senate has fixed similar sessions, and for the same reason. The House, however, has not yet been given up. Its friends have made their plans to bring the bill up again for consideration at next session.

About thirty years ago, by a solemn compact entered into by the government of the United States, with the Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chicasaws and Seminoles, then occupying the present States of Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi, those Indian nations agreed to remove from the land of their forefathers and occupy a new Territory, to be provided for them on the west of the Mississippi. The government compensated the tribes for their lands, and at the same time solemnly promised that on their new lands they should have their own laws and in every respect be undisturbed. There are probably ninety thousand of these Indians. They are not a savage, predatory people, but semi-civilized, cultivating crops and raising cattle. Their country lies west of Arkansas and possesses some of the finest pasture lands west of the Mississippi. On the extreme west of the Territory a large region has been marked off as a reservation for the wild tribes of the Kiowas and Comanches and Southern bands of the Cheyenne and Arapahoes. If Congress should establish a territorial form of government, without the consent of the Indians, to whom the country belongs, the United States only having the right of supreme authority, it would be perpetrating an act of outrageous violation of a solemn pledge, in the shape of a treaty. Ross and other chiefs of the Cherokees and Creeks, as well as chiefs of the other tribes, have been passing to and fro between the Indian Territory and Washington, and will oppose the bill when it comes up next session, as they have done in the past. All these Indians ask is that the government shall adhere to its guaranteed treaties.

A Revenue Circular.

A circular is being prepared by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and will be sent to all Collectors of Internal Revenue, embodying the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Reading Railroad case, and requesting them to investigate whether there are any cases where back taxes may be assessed under this decision.

Mexican-Texas Frontier Troubles—Prospective Annexation.

While the country is still looking toward the Rio Grande frontier with considerable interest in the labors of the Border Commission now engaged in an official investigation into the causes and nature of the disorders which have existed along the line, and the appointment of the Secretary of War, accompanied by the Lieutenant General, on a tour of inspection of the frontier posts of Texas, not to speak of the visit of Gen. Sheridan to the Rio Grande boundary from Brownsville to El Paso, throws the whole question of the frontier difficulties between the United States and Mexico into an attitude rather suggestive of a policy more decisive than has as yet been broached. Two regiments of United States cavalry have been ordered from the interior of the country to patrol the particular country over which the Secretary of War and the Lieutenant General propose to direct their steps.

This is nothing but open field for the predatory parties of Mexican banditti, and has also afforded an almost unobstructed chance for smugglers to get their goods across the border into the United States.

Recent information from Mexico gives anything but a cheerful prospect for that distracted country. The experience of the last fifty years of Presidents, subject to the endless vicissitudes of revolutions and two empires of ephemeral existence, have not only disturbed the peace and prosperity of the country, but all business, ruined cities, and demoralized the people in body, mind and religion. The atrocities perpetrated upon the native Indians by the Spanish conquerors, and the wars which followed the romantic though bloody exploits of Hernando Cortes, and the overthrow of the imperial indigenous reigning family of the Montezumas, down to the late expulsion of the Spanish tyrants, have made a deep impression. The Aztecs and Toltecs were in many respects superior to the Indians of the United States, and were prosperous. Their descendants have inherited a mortal antagonism, through an unsuccessive age perpetuating hatred of the memory of the conquerors, and of all authority against their race. The native Indian still constitutes about three-fourths of the entire population of Mexico. This proportion will increase by natural growth on the part of the aborigines, and will be found to be in general with the interests of the natives. They hate the Castilian with a common hate. Personal ambition and the rivalry of unprincipled leaders have so debauched Mexico what she is to-day. After a glorious struggle for the independence of the Spanish crown, her opportunities were frittered away in intestine wars. She wanted true patriots. The worst of her public men was ten years ago, and year by year she is descending in the scale of nations. The irresponsibility of the government has not only been shown in the foreign policy, but in the policy within its own borders, but has effected the peace and security of a large section of our own country. American will has been violated with impunity, and even the revenue laws have been openly defied.

The visit of the Secretary of War and the Lieutenant General will result in a more effective report of the actual condition of things on our Mexican frontier than can ever be hoped for from a peripatetic Commission. When these two high officials return to Washington, they will be prepared to report, for the true state of the case, a very few words.

There are divers schemes being agitated with a view to the establishment of a protectorate of the troubled region, arising from the proximity of our revolutionary neighbor. The most important of these is the annexation of the larger part of the Mexican States. The portion of the country favored for annexation commences at the mouth of the Rio Grande and runs along the line of that river southwestery course to the Pacific Ocean, embracing about half the total area of Mexico, including the northern part of the State of Tamaulipas, about half of Nuevo Leon, one-third of Coahuila, more than half of Durango, also, all of Sonora, Chihuahua and Sinaloa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 4, 1873.

The Frauds of an Indian Agent.

The case of Judge John W. Wright, late Indian agent to pay the annuities of certain Western tribes, and whose receipts, purporting to come from the persons named, represented as Indians, long gone to the "happy hunting grounds," has turned up in a more serious shape than that individual anticipated. It appears that no less than twelve indictments with sixty counts, have been found against him. Immediate steps will be taken to bring this liberal friend of the redskin, alive or dead, to trial. A short time since Wright made an attempt to effect a compromise with the government, but his proposition was rejected by the Attorney General. The extent of these frauds, it is presumed, will reach nearly a half million of dollars. Wright has been enabling his flight to the retreat was occasioned by the intelligence he had received of the indictments. It is understood here that he is now in the vicinity of St. Louis. A government agent will leave here to-night to assist the District Attorney in the trial, which, for the convenience of the majority of the witnesses, will be held at St. Louis. The frauds so far discovered by the government are represented as of the most flagrant character, if not perpetrated by any official. Wright owns a large amount of property in Washington. The building now occupied by the Bureaus of Education and Statistics is his.

The "Atlantic" Horror.

Experienced naval officers here, familiar with the coasts of Nova Scotia, in discussing the Atlantic disaster, express the opinion that the wreck of the ill-fated vessel was the result of criminality on the part of the officers of the Captain, and inefficiency and insubordination on the part of the crew. They consider the loss of the vessel and the sacrifice of so many lives as entirely unnecessary and without excuse.

Confirmation of Postmasters.

Official notifications of the following additional confirmations of Postmasters in Pennsylvania have been received: Brice Blair, Huntingdon, and William H. Dickey, Kittanning.

Postoffice Directory.

The following changes in postoffices in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia have been made during the past week:

Established—Ingalls, Cuyahoga county, Ohio, Special from Cleveland.

Discontinued—Wayne Center, Crawford county, Pa., papers to Meadville; Cow Run Tree, Marshall county, West Virginia, papers to Bolton; Postdam, Miami county, Ohio, papers to Laura; Jackson, Jackson county, West Virginia, papers to Jackson C. H.

Re-established—Townsend's Mills, Gilmore county, West Virginia, from Glenville to Braxton.

Sites Changed—Hermitage, Mercer county, Pa., to Hermitage Station.

A publication under the direction of Messrs Rambusch and Nisbet, of the Postoffice Department, has made its appearance under the title of the "United States Postal Guide," a small folio sheet printed in weekly and quarterly editions, and is devoted exclusively to official departmental information of value to postmasters. The guide has the indorsement of the Commission appointed to revise the regulations of the Postoffice Department. It is to bad by subscription at $1 50 a year.

Rulings of the Postoffice Department.

The following important notifications have just been made:

The provisions of law authorizing the free delivery of newspapers within the county of their publication, and the free interchange of publications between publishers ceases June 30, 1873, under the act of March 3, 1873, repealing all existing provisions of law permitting the transmission of any free mail matter whatever from and after June 30, 1873.

None but weekly newspapers are allowed to pass free of postage to subscribers within the county where printed and published. [Privilege to cease from and after June 30, 1873.]

The accounts of a deceased postmaster should be made out by his sureties or legal representatives up to the time of surrendering the office into the hands of a successor.

There is nothing in the postal law to prevent persons from paying the subscription to a newspaper and ordering the same to be sent by mail direct from the office of publication to such person as they may choose, provided the postage on the paper be paid quarterly in advance, either at the mailing office or at the office of delivery.

Postmasters are required to receive and deliver to subscribers newspapers which come in the mail, and to put the address on such publications sent by clubs, or to deliver them from a list of subscribers, provided such list is furnished, and the postage on the whole packet paid for one quarter in advance.

Under the Executive order a postmaster, whose salary is over $1,000 a year, cannot also hold the office of recorder of a town or township clerk. He may hold the office of secretary of a school district, provided the attention required by such employment does not interfere with the regular and efficient discharge of his duties as postmaster.

"Each postoffice box or drawer is restricted to the use of one family, firm or company, and the rent therefor must be paid for at least one quarter in advance." The ruling under this regulation is that two or more distinct families living separate or apart from one another cannot rent and use the same box.

The reduction of the rate of postage upon seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, actions, &c., does not involve a reduction of the rate upon other matter of the third class. Books, samples of metals, ores, minerals and merchandise, are subject to postage at the rate of 2c. for each 2 ozs. or fraction thereof, and must be sent in packages limited to 12 ozs. in weight, unaccompanied by any writing other than the address.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 6, 1873.

Indian War Probable.

Reports from the Cinnamon and Canadian rivers, in the far western portion of the Indian Territory, give every indication of unusual uneasiness among the savages of those regions. The Cheyennes and Arapahoes, Kiowas and Comanches, who range along the headwaters of the Arkansas, Canadian, Cinnamon and Red rivers have kept comparatively quiet since the drubbing they received from Sheridan's troops during the winter campaign of 1868 and '69. The Dog soldiers of the Cheyennes, as they are termed, compose the most active and restless of these savage warriors of the Southern Plains. Several surveying parties have been attacked and their members killed by them. This restless spirit seems to pervade all the tribes and will need prompt action to prevent a general Indian war. The intelligence so far received has been forwarded to the headquarters of the Military Division of the Missouri, and it is probable that a United States Cavalry has just started for the Plains, and if necessary a considerable body of troops will be on hand as a warning to the wavering redskins. From all indications the season of plenty of grass and buffalo does not open favorably for the peace doctrines.

The Government and the Railroads.

Though the postal service is the one in which a large number of the people are directly interested, it was little thought that it would set in motion a line of Congressional investigation which promises a revolution in the relations between the government and the railroads of the United States. This simple demand of the greater railroad corporations has done more for the cause of cheap transportation than a string of petitions reaching from the Rocky mountains across the Mississippi valley, over the Alleghenies and down the halls of Congress. The opposition of the Senate to allowing its Select Committee on Transportation Routes to the Seaboard to sit during the recess, and the appointment by the President, of only will the postal car trouble be investigated, but also an inquiry will be made into the rates of freights and everything relating to transportation and the best means of securing cheap rates for the immense grain product of the interior of the continent. This, however, will be but one branch of the inquiry, which will be a more comprehensive consideration of the question and a thoroughly national remedy. The investigations made, though apparently relating to the postal service, will undoubtedly really have in view the feasibility of the government assuming control of or constructing lines communicating with the seaboard. It is to be certain that if they find sufficient justification within the scope of the rightful functions of the government to prepare an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and to introduce the same for the consideration of Congress, and for submission to the legislatures of the States for ratification. In this the question is considered whether power of the government to take direct control of internal improvements will be clearly defined, and its right to exercise a supervision over railroads will be established. This will be the turn in the operations of the Committee on Transportation Routes is quite unexpected. The Chairman, Mr. Windom, is from the great grain growing State of Minnesota, and its other members largely represent the agricultural interest. The sessions of the committee at the different principal cities, will be watched with interest, and the report is not to Congress next December, will be looked for with unusual eagerness.

A Request Declined.

An act passed during the closing hours of the late Congress to authorize the interment of honorably discharged soldiers, sailors and marines in the National cemeteries of the United States, meets a request which has been frequently made upon the government since the war. The War Department recognized the justice and propriety of the request, but not being limited in its action by the law, declined to accede to the wishes of the friends of deceased soldiers and marines. In order to make this objection clear, it not provides that "all honorably discharged soldiers, sailors, or marines, who may have served during the late war either in the regular or volunteer forces, dying after the passage of this act, may be buried in any National cemetery of the United States free of cost, and their graves shall receive the same care and attention as the graves of officers and soldiers." In the production of the honorable discharge of the deceased shall be satisfactorily of the Superintendent of the cemetery to permit the interment."

Arms for Southern States.

The disposition of Congress not to treat the South as a conquered people, but to consider them as citizens entitled to equal privileges with those of any other part of the country, was shown by the passage on the part of the Senate of the bill to restore to the Southern States their arms. The bill provides that the Secretary of War to distribute arms and military equipments. The act provides for the distribution "to such States as may apply for the same, not exceeding one hundred and sixty-two to the yer eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, receive the same, their proper quota of military arms and military equipments, and not exceeding one hundred and sixty-two to eighteen hundred and sixty-nine, under the act of Congress approved April twenty-third, eighteen hundred and eight, and seventy-two, which have been placed in the United States Military Academy, and also for the organization and equipment of military companies and organizations with said arms, no discrimination shall be made between the militia and other citizens on account of race, color, or former condition of servitude." As the stipulations of the treaty are amendatory, no arms and equipments will be sent to Arkansas until the consent of that State is obtained. What particular course will be pursued in the disbursement of these arms has not yet been finally determined.

Retiring Assessors and Assistants.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has fixed the 20th of May as the time of going into effect of the law abolishing the offices of Assessor and Assistant Assessor. This will dispose of one hundred and thirty of the former and about twelve hundred of the latter class of officials.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 7, 1873.

The Dead Letter Office.

The hecatombs of officeholders immolated on the altar of Internal Revenue reform by the passage of the act abolishing the offices, is a most considerable equivoming among the victims. The maids of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue are filled with anxiety to ascertain the fate of the Assistant Assessors in all parts of the country desiring to be employed in the examination of applications for Deputy Collectors. The Commissioner cannot see the economy of cutting down one class of officers and creating another.

Patience Sorely Tried.

The office hunters still lingering here are considerably exercised at the protracted absence of the President. The exhibition of patience is not the least of their embarrassments.

American Photographic Art at Vienna.

Frederick Gutekunst, of Philadelphia, has the representation of our country at the Vienna Exhibition. Full sets of the explorations in the forthcoming Pacific Railroad expeditions, Rivers, valleys, mines and aborigines, from Colorado to California, three cases of views from Hayden's collection of the Yellowstone and Snake River regions, Powell's and several other exploring expeditions, have been prepared for this purpose. No less interesting are the views of Mexican scenery, embracing the most interesting features of the Territories of the United States, have been prepared for the same purpose. Mr. Gutekunst's collection of photographs of the Spanish tyrants, have made a deep impression. The Aztecs and Toltecs were in many respects superior to the Indians of the United States, and were prosperous. Their descendants have inherited a mortal antagonism, through an unsuccessive age perpetuating hatred of the memory of the conquerors, and of all authority against their race. The native Indian still constitutes about three-fourths of the entire population of Mexico. This proportion will increase by natural growth on the part of the aborigines, and will be found to be in general with the interests of the natives. They hate the Castilian with a common hate. Personal ambition and the rivalry of unprincipled leaders have so debauched Mexico what she is to-day. After a glorious struggle for the independence of the Spanish crown, her opportunities were frittered away in intestine wars. She wanted true patriots. The worst of her public men was ten years ago, and year by year she is descending in the scale of nations. The irresponsibility of the government has not only been shown in the foreign policy, but in the policy within its own borders, but has effected the peace and security of a large section of our own country. American will has been violated with impunity, and even the revenue laws have been openly defied.

The visit of the Secretary of War and the Lieutenant General will result in a more effective report of the actual condition of things on our Mexican frontier than can ever be hoped for from a peripatetic Commission. When these two high officials return to Washington, they will be prepared to report, for the true state of the case, a very few words.

There are divers schemes being agitated with a view to the establishment of a protectorate of the troubled region, arising from the proximity of our revolutionary neighbor. The most important of these is the annexation of the larger part of the Mexican States. The portion of the country favored for annexation commences at the mouth of the Rio Grande and runs along the line of that river southwestery course to the Pacific Ocean, embracing about half the total area of Mexico, including the northern part of the State of Tamaulipas, about half of Nuevo Leon, one-third of Coahuila, more than half of Durango, also, all of Sonora, Chihuahua and Sinaloa.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 4, 1873.

The Frauds of an Indian Agent.

The case of Judge John W. Wright, late Indian agent to pay the annuities of certain Western tribes, and whose receipts, purporting to come from the persons named, represented as Indians, long gone to the "happy hunting grounds," has turned up in a more serious shape than that individual anticipated. It appears that no less than twelve indictments with sixty counts, have been found against him. Immediate steps will be taken to bring this liberal friend of the redskin, alive or dead, to trial. A short time since Wright made an attempt to effect a compromise with the government, but his proposition was rejected by the Attorney General. The extent of these frauds, it is presumed, will reach nearly a half million of dollars. Wright has been enabling his flight to the retreat was occasioned by the intelligence he had received of the indictments. It is understood here that he is now in the vicinity of St. Louis. A government agent will leave here to-night to assist the District Attorney in the trial, which, for the convenience of the majority of the witnesses, will be held at St. Louis. The frauds so far discovered by the government are represented as of the most flagrant character, if not perpetrated by any official. Wright owns a large amount of property in Washington. The building now occupied by the Bureaus of Education and Statistics is his.

The "Atlantic" Horror.

Experienced naval officers here, familiar with the coasts of Nova Scotia, in discussing the Atlantic disaster, express the opinion that the wreck of the ill-fated vessel was the result of criminality on the part of the officers of the Captain, and inefficiency and insubordination on the part of the crew. They consider the loss of the vessel and the sacrifice of so many lives as entirely unnecessary and without excuse.

Confirmation of Postmasters.

Official notifications of the following additional confirmations of Postmasters in Pennsylvania have been received: Brice Blair, Huntingdon, and William H. Dickey, Kittanning.

Postoffice Directory.

The following changes in postoffices in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia have been made during the past week:

Established—Ingalls, Cuyahoga county, Ohio, Special from Cleveland.

Discontinued—Wayne Center, Crawford county, Pa., papers to Meadville; Cow Run Tree, Marshall county, West Virginia, papers to Bolton; Postdam, Miami county, Ohio, papers to Laura; Jackson, Jackson county, West Virginia, papers to Jackson C. H.

Re-established—Townsend's Mills, Gilmore county, West Virginia, from Glenville to Braxton.

Sites Changed—Hermitage, Mercer county, Pa., to Hermitage Station.

A publication under the direction of Messrs Rambusch and Nisbet, of the Postoffice Department, has made its appearance under the title of the "United States Postal Guide," a small folio sheet printed in weekly and quarterly editions, and is devoted exclusively to official departmental information of value to postmasters. The guide has the indorsement of the Commission appointed to revise the regulations of the Postoffice Department. It is to bad by subscription at $1 50 a year.

New Jersey Senator Charged with Receiving Bribe Money.

TRENTON, N. J., April 4.—There was some excitement created here to-day in consequence of the arrest of one of the Senators. Immediately after adjournment *sine die* an officer walked up to the Senator, and presented him a capias issued on a warrant issued on complaint of one Joseph Shaffer, one of the contractors of the National Railway, charging the Senator with corruptly receiving $2,500 in consideration of his vote in the interest of said National Railway. It is stated that Shephard received the money, but did not vote as was expected or agreed upon, and it is said he intended to return the money. The affidavit charges him with having taken the money and keeping it. Shephard gave bail for his appearance before the Court in May next to answer the charge.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 3, 1873.

Infamous Project Not Given Up.

For the last few years there have been repeated attempts by certain parties in Congress to secure the passage of an act to organize a regular territorial government in the Indian Territory. It has so far been greatly to the credit of the majority in Congress that this infamous project has not been carried out. The measure has been looked upon with suspicion by honest men. As a rule, the Senators and members interested have been prominently identified with the various measures for securing land grants for private corporations. The exposure of not only the unprincipled nature of the proposed change in the government of the Territory, but of the bad faith of such an act, has thus far checked the success of the scheme. The project, however, has not yet been given up. Its friends have made their plans to bring the bill up again for consideration at next session.

About thirty years ago, by a solemn compact entered into by the government of the United States, with the Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws, Chicasaws and Seminoles, then occupying the present States of Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi, those Indian nations agreed to remove from the land of their forefathers and occupy a new Territory, to be provided for them on the west of the Mississippi. The government compensated the tribes for their lands, and at the same time solemnly promised that on their new lands they should have their own laws and in every respect be undisturbed. There are probably ninety thousand of these Indians. They are not a savage, predatory people, but semi-civilized, cultivating crops and raising cattle

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, April 12, 1873.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1873.

IN THE case of the United States, against the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, the Supreme Court has just rendered an opinion of widespread interest, in as much is it finally settles the question that the United States has no power to tax that part of the earnings of a corporation which has been previously pledged to a State or municipality.

THE United States Circuit Court of Massachusetts has just rendered a decision of considerable interest to bankers, the gist of which is that any promise by the teller of a bank to pay at a future time a check, the drawer of which has no funds on deposit at the date of presentment, does not bind the bank, because such promise is without consideration, and also within the statute of frauds, as being a promise to pay the debt of another, and therefore should be in writing.

THE latest published monthly report of the Bureau of Statistics brings the statistics of our foreign trade down to October 31, 1872. Allowing for the difference in the warehouse account, the imports for the ten months ended that period are in excess of the domestic and foreign exports combined, to the amount of $128,278,787, while for the ten months ended October 31, 1871, the imports exceeded the exports by only $16,742,952. It is to be hoped we may one day succeed in getting the balance on the right side of the national ledger.

WE HAVE on several occasions of late commented on the anxiety of the more sensible Southern people to be delivered from their pretended Northern friends. Here is a paragraph from an ultra Democraffe Georgia sheet, which we commend to the consideration of those opposition papers in this latitude which by their misrepresentations are trying to keep away settlers and capital from that section of our common country:

"The newspapers are taking up the old cry of 'immense bonded debt,' and declare that the success of the Democratic party is sweeping the country from one end to the other. There is no sense in this cry because here and there in the Northern States a few townships, counties, or even a State goes Democratic; this is simply the result of local issues based upon which men of all parties differ, and in voting on the question are not governed by party lines. We have been deceived with this old cry long enough, and had our hopes to go up and come down into a shapeless mass of disappointment. Change we must, and until the old dead-beat politicians die, or are shelved, we shall have very little change of political sentiment in this country."

ON THURSDAY, April 10, 1845—twenty-eight years ago to-day—occurred "the great fire," by which one-third of the city of Pittsburgh, embracing its most active business portion, was laid in ashes. Since that period the press has wrought a great difference in the aspect of affairs since. The wasted city recovered bravely from its terrible visitation; and if, perhaps, its subsequent remarkable growth has been somewhat less startling and phenomenal than that of some other and younger places, it is second to no city in the country in tranquil and steady advance of solid power and prosperity. The motion of the past does but feebly prophesy the progress of the future. Taking into consideration the fact that the growth of the country in manufactures is becoming immensely greater every year, and that the development of Pittsburgh must of logical necessity keep pace with the development and utilization of the almost boundless resources of the State and of the Nation—the advance of the city in all the elements of metropolitan greatness, during the next twenty-eight years, promises to be something wonderful.

A KANSAS paper states that the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad has contracted to forward from Atchison to the East one hundred and fifty-eight car loads of buffalo bones collected on the Western plains. Such a fact gives one some notion of the immense multitudes of the beast wantonly slaughtered. Along the Red river vast tracts of the country are literally covered with its bones. Every one is familiar with the picture of the mounted American pioneer is given to the habit of the instinctiveness of destroying life, vegetable and animal, for the mere sake of exercising and displaying his own power, without thought or prospect of any personal advantage. But it seems to them even the educated and refined, as they no doubt think themselves, are almost as much moved by the ignoble propensity as the rudest backwoodsman. Gentlemen from the Eastern cities and from Europe traveling by the Pacific Railroad, often have revolvers and even rifles with them for the mere purpose of killing buffalo, hurling into a herd. They will shoot till their friends that they have shot a buffalo, confident of being admired for their prowess! But many of them really seem to derive a positive delight from the memory of such acts of brutality as well as from the immediate perpetration of them. The trait is one of those which most stagger those who refuse to accept the Darwinian theory of man's origin.

A CONTEMPORARY mentions it as a fact well known in Washington society, that a United States Senator, lately dishonored forever by yielding to pecuniary temptation, fell a victim of his wife's extravagance. Fond of dress, fond of display, consumed with an ambition which felt itself the superior finery of another woman as an affront to herself, she made constant appeals to her husband for money. Himself so indifferent to money as hardly to have mastered its ethics, he was ruined by his wife's passion. Though we know not the name of the Senator referred to or the truth of the statement, we may say that, to most persons who know something of the world, the statement will seem inherently probable. In fact, precisely similar cases are constantly occurring. The exact social position of the husband is an indifferent circumstance. Probably the wives of men who occupied the rank of Senator of the United States have usually been both morally and intellectually above the possibility of playing the part of their husbands' evil genius in any such manner. Certainly remembering the sort of men United States Senators used to be, it is difficult to believe that a man cursed with such a helpmate could often have risen to the indispensable conditions of the position; a more obscure destiny usually awaits the men thus weighted. But there can not be a doubt that if the secret history of the crimes against property committed within the last twenty years by married men occupying reputable social positions, could be ascertained, it would be found that much the larger portion of them were directly traceable to feminine extravagance.

RETRO-PROGRESSION IN LIBERTY.

While many American Protestants are rejoicing over Bismarck's policy towards the Catholic Church, the Rev. Dr. Thompson (Egypter) writing in the *Independent*, treats the same policy as "amending backwards" and "as retrogression in religious liberty." Under the Prussian constitution, as it has existed for more than twenty years, the Evangelical and Roman Catholic Churches, as well as every other religious society, enjoyed the right "to order and administer their affairs independently," and each religious society was secured in "the enjoyment and possession of the institutions, endowments, and income set apart to its use for worship, endueation, and general prosperity." At the time of its adoption these provisions of the constitution were universally regarded by Liberals as a most important gain to the cause of freedom and progress. And yet in the alarm caused by Papal encroachments several the Liberals as a party, are now in favor of a constitutional amendment which places all religious societies, whether Protestant or Catholic, under the absolute control of the State in the ordering and administration of their affairs. The words "independent" and "independently" are still allowed to stand in the constitution, but by the terms added in the amendments they are divested of all force, so that it may well be doubted whether so palpable a contradiction was ever before permitted in a solemn national instrument.

Even the fear and dislike of the Church of Rome have not prevented the leaders of the Evangelical Church from remonstrating against the amendments. Under them and the laws which they are designed to sanction, a Protestant congregation could not call a pastor from Switzerland without a special dispensation from an officer of the German government. The same formality would also be necessary to enable a German clergyman to accept a pastoral charge in Germany, after having labored for a while in some foreign field, and these are only specimens of the irksome interference to which the Protestant churches would be subjected by the change. Perhaps the effect most earnestly deprecated by the evangelical clergy is the influence of the new laws upon ecclesiastical discipline. The laws were drawn by Dr. VON STROW, the aged heretic lately sentenced to perpetual silence in the pulpit, by the Consistory of Berlin, might, if he pleased, appeal to a civil judge for the reversal of that theological decision. It is impossible to doubt that the privilege, or rather the legal right of appeal, would frequently be taken advantage of, with the result of completely destroying all rigor of discipline, and of handing over the Protestant churches to the reign of disorder and heresy.

Whether Prince BISMARCK foresaw that his measures would thus fetter and embarrass the non-Roman churches we can not pretend confidently to say. The Prince is said to be sentimentally a decided friend of orthodoxy, looking down with disdain and as disreputable upon rationalists and theological innovators in general. Roman Catholicism apart from its political pretensions, he regards as "the religion of the uncultivated and addested before very long to die out as Roman heathenism died out fifteen hundred years ago;" an expression of opinion lately ascribed to the Chancellor, which led Father OERTEL, a noted Catholic champion, to say that "the Prince, known to be fond of Pomeranian *schnaps*, must have been tipsy when he uttered so shameful a remark." But this is a digression. No doubt the Chancellor's ecclesiastical policy is determined wholly by political considerations, and is directed against the Papacy as an ambitious and dangerous political power. So much he declared in the speech of which we gave an account some time ago, and in the sternness of his resolution to put down and trample under foot the claims of the Court of Rome to interfere in the administration of the young empire, he may have given little thought to the possible effect of his measures upon the management and discipline of the Evangelical communions.

There is, however, another view of the subject. Unfortunately, in Germany, ecclesiastical arrogance and lofty spiritual assumption are not confined to any single confession, but in all confessions leaders, under the temptations and various influences of their position, are liable unduly to magnify their office, and to assert for themselves prerogatives and a degree of authority which laymen sometimes find offensive as well as difficult to recognize. In these facts we have a possible explanation of the indifference with which the lay legislators of Prussia seem to regard the very comprehensive effects of the measures specially designed to curb and render harmless the Catholic priesthood. They perhaps think that, if the practical influence of other clergymen is at the same time curtailed, the result will be upon the whole beneficial. The petty, tyrannical mischievous habits of the prime minister of worship, VON MUELLER, are still remembered with no agreeable savor.

It is, nevertheless, impossible for an American familiar with the operation of a free church in a free State, to regard the German Chancellor's ecclesiastical policy without misgiving and regret. And educated Germans on this side of the water fully share in these feelings, while they sharply rebuke the Liberal party in Prussia for its blind subservience to the government. Thus, the New York *Staats Zeitung* says that, if the Liberals have been guilty of such principles as they would have given the Catholic Church, and even the Jesuits, the benefit of them; but led astray by the prospect of power, they have placed in the government an authority which in despite of its liberal color is essentially despotic. The *Zeitung* does not believe that the zeal and intrigues of Catholic bishops and priests constituted a peril to the German State so great as to justify their course or make it necessary to invest the Berlin government with a power over the Church as absolute as that wielded over the Greek Church by the Czar of Russia at St. Petersburg. In fact, it says, the clerical despotism of the bishops has merely given place to the bureaucratic despotism of government officials, and the independence of the Church is not of the question.

NOTHING TO SHOCK OR ALARM.

Prominent ladies of St. Louis have lately taken an active part in the agitation of a phase of the delicate subject which is not even mentioned to "ears polite" by any of the familiar Saxon or less familiar Latin terms which designate it, but which in refined colloquy is always called the "social evil." The relation of the subject to the interests of society is of direct and undeniable importance, and with the progress of sociological inquiries and philanthropic activity that distinguishes the present age, the subject referred to has necessarily received an increased measure of attention. In England several years ago Parliament undertook to regulate the evil by legislation of the same general tenor as the legislation which adopted or perhaps imitated by the Corporation of St. Louis, has given rise there to a good deal of dissatisfaction and debate. And when certain women of high character and social position in St. Louis resolved to disregard current prejudices and exert their influence against measures which seemed to them of evil tendency moral and social, they were no doubt encouraged and stimulated by the example of those English women who courageously stood forth as the opponents of the same or similar measures sanctioned by Parliament.

We refer to the subject for the purpose of correcting the apparent misapprehension of our intelligent neighbor of the *Frohicte Freund*. In the course of the St. Louis movement for the exemplification of the feminine extravagance and eccentricities, to which the woman's rights doctrines naturally lead. Violation of propriety, female modesty and delicacy appears to him to have reached its extreme, its point of culmination, in this proceeding of American women. He admits, however, that if the mere wish to make a sensation were not the motive, but genuine sympathy for the misery and ruin of the fallen, then women of respectability might be justified in disregarding ordinary restraints and scruples for so high a purpose, on the supposition that practical good could thus be accomplished. But in this possibility he has little if any faith. Probably such scepticism is well founded; sensibility is not the instrument by which the problem in question is to be finally solved. But at the same time we deny that the feminine reformers of St. Louis have done anything original, or specifically characteristic of American women. Their proceeding is not connected at all directly with the woman's rights movement; its inspiration is the humanitarian tendency of the age, and whatever may be said about its wisdom or gracefulness, a sufficient vindication of its delicacy may be found in the character of those eminent British ladies who set the example.

Without expressing an opinion as to the propriety or utility of active feminine participation in popular movements, one may safely say that, in developing and illustrating the principles of republican government, the American people have undoubtedly a task of world-wide interest assigned them in developing and illustrating the just relations of women to society. The sphere of woman as defined in the modern Christian States of the old world was no doubt susceptible of modifications indispensable to the best interests of both sexes. In many respects it was determined and fixed by ideas, doctrines, customs and prejudices which the most enlightened minds long ago outgrew and left behind, but which were still firmly intrenched in the sentiments of the majority. In even the most advanced countries of Europe two and wont were too strong to permit the new views to become facts, or even to be tried, and it was reserved for the United States to afford opportunities for the change or the experiment. Such changes can not take place without giving rise to strange and perhaps alarming social and moral phenomena. Of this unlovely or even revolting nature are many of the manifestations resulting from the woman's rights movement. Sensitive observers are disgusted and timid observers are frightened at feminine claims and pretentions which seem to threaten the foundations of society, and which certainly tend to lessen if not destroy in one half of the population the sentiment made up of reverential deference and romantic affection with which the best of them regard the other moiety. But these are merely the indications of a state of transition, of a gradual revolution, destined to be most beneficent in its results. The violent changes championed by extremists thin voiced and vociferous, can not come to pass. "Woman's sphere" in all its essential features is marked out and fixed by eternal laws, which can not be abrogated or modified, and the sound understanding and right feeling of the great majority of women recognize the truth, and they neither wish nor seek for a radical change. But the effect of the agitation will be to bring about a thousand superficial though important reforms essential to the life of a reasonably perfect social state and to the utmost efficiency of its elements.

A NEW departure in steam navigation seems not improbable. A practical Boston mechanic is reported to have invented a method of propelling steamers, which, if successfully carried out, can hardly fail to be of immense importance and value. By the new invention the vessel is propelled by two screws differing in almost every particular from the ordinary propeller. These screws are long, hollow iron cylinders, with what are called "gain" screws, with two threads. The threads are near together at the bow and gradually diverge toward the stern, thus giving the name of gain screw. By this means a great power is gained at once at the bow, and the gradually increasing width between the threads diminishes the friction and dead weigh of the water to a great extent. The cylinders being hollow are very buoyant. The journals of these cylinders run in strong yokes projecting from the iron heel at the bow and stern. The cylinders themselves are run by an endless chain. The threads are large, and answer to the blades of a propeller, but having a greater surface, give a vastly increased power. It is claimed that with these screws a river boat can be run at the rate of thirty-seven miles an hour; that a tug thus equipped can with engines of the same power pull these ordinary tugs backwards, and that an ocean steamer can cross the Atlantic in four and a half days. The plan, it is said, has been shown to a number of eminent shipbuilders, and other persons well versed in practical science, all of whom express themselves confident that it can be carried out. A practical test of the invention is soon to be made by building a tug on the new plan.

ADDITIONAL STATE NEWS.

The session of the Supreme Court in Philadelphia, which closed on Saturday, lasted seventy-seven days. Four of the judges were in the dispatch of.

Nineteen persons—six men and thirteen women—died in Philadelphia last week, the youngest of whom were eighty and the oldest ninety-three years of age.

H. P. Glauffetter proposes to erect a new printing paper mill at Spring Forge, York county, this summer.

A block fox was captured in Sanphin county a few days ago. This is the first one heard of.

Thomas Nelson, a car inspector at Altoona, was run over and killed on Saturday evening.

A case of poisoning from the accidental use of poke root, instead of horse radish, occurred in Tremont township, Warren county, last week. The whole family of Mr. Thomas Bissel was taken violently sick. Mr. Bissel thought it might be poison, but where it came from was the mystery. It was at last conjectured that the poke root, gathered for the table a son had remarked about a soft roof in with the rest. It was grated up, and the mystery solved. It was a bill of poke root, and it is now certain that it is a deadly poison, and that people as a general thing are not aware of it. The family recovered, but under the danger for many days and hours, and were left in a state of great weakness. Look out for poke roots.

The wife of a New Castle man disappeared the other day, and so did his household goods and a young man who boarded in the family. It's not the loss of the final holding that troubles him so much as the loss of his wife.

The catalogue of the trustees, officers and instructors of the Cumberland Valley State Normal School, at Shippensburg, Cumberland county, has been received. The faculty consists of twelve persons, headed by Mr. George P. Beard, Principal. Dr. R. C. Hays is President, and J. A. C. McClure Secretary of the Board of Trustees. The school will be thoroughly graded, with primary, grammar and high school departments. The course of instruction will be that usually given in the best graded schools for normal schools. The first term of the institution will open on the 15th inst., and will close on the 15th of June. Ample accommodations are located in one of the most beautiful and healthful regions in the State.

A Harrisburger possesses a picture of Hernando Cortez, painted on wood.

Neither the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania nor the city of Philadelphia has a recognized coat-of-arms. At Harrisburg every newly elected officials arranges the animals on the seal to suit himself, and consequently the seal is scarcely ever the same. Some of the State government which have prodcely the same coat-of-arms.

Monetary affairs are said to be improving in the oil regions.

Progress of Iron Manufacturing in Georgia and Tennessee.

The Atlanta *Constitution* report that the iron interests of East Tennessee are rapidly concentrating at Chattanooga, and bid fair to make her the iron center of the South. We learn that capitalists have recently invested largely in real estate in that city, as well as in coal and iron lands in the immediate vicinity, and have made arrangements for the early establishment of a smelting furnace with a capacity of 50 tons of pig iron per day, within the corporate limits of the city. Another furnace has also been determined upon on the opposite side of the city, with a capacity of thirty tons per day.

In connection with these furnaces, it has been determined to construct a railroad from the coal and iron fields owned by the first named company.

As these coal fields are only thirteen miles distant from the city, the line a cheap one to construct, and will run for nearly its entire length through a level or continuous down grade from the coal fields to the city, it is estimated that coal can be delivered in the streets of Chattanooga for eighty cents per ton, and still leave a large profit to the company. This step will eventually make Chattanooga the great iron producing city of this continent.

Living Down the Accusations.

Gov. Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, seems to be winning golden opinions from all sorts of people by his judicious use of the veto power. He is evidently trying to live down the sweeping accusations which him made in the heat of the political canvass last fall.

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HOME INDUSTRY.

Plain Facts for Protectionists—Necessity for a Free Awakening of the Popular Mind on the Subject of Protection to Home Productions. An Address from the American Iron and Steel Association.

OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL ASSOCIATION, April 4, 1873.

The Marquette *Mining Journal* recently gave expression to the views of thousands of good protectionists when it said: "We are inclined to think that the labors of Stewart, Carey, Elder, Cooper and Greeley have about finished up the tariff question; meaning, of course, that no further discussion of the question is necessary; that the doctrine of protection is everywhere accepted as the settled policy of the country, from which there will be no departure by legislators or others in the long years to come. This opinion needs to be revised, and that promptly, or the most pernicious consequences will certainly result. The truth is, that never in all our history has there existed greater necessity for a fresh awakening of the popular mind to the benefits of protection than exists to-day. There are several causes which conspire to render necessary a restatement of old and even threadbare arguments in favor of protection, but there are two which have especial prominence, and which threaten to be most productive of disastrous consequences. These are, first, the very indifference to which we have alluded, arising from a sense of security to which the extraordinary and unprecedented business prosperity of the country during the past few years has contributed; and second, the railroad agitation in the West, which is sweeping like a cyclone over a section of the country where protection never has been a party, but a part of the political faith of the people, but has always been regarded as synonymous with robbery and monopoly.

In reference to the indifference of the friends of protection to the duty of forcibly stating the reasons they have already gained, it may be remarked that the opportunity for such assertion under the protective policy which is thus offered is being embraced by free traders. Upon this point the boast of the Free Trade League to be published in the spring, the hopes of all who belong to its school. It says:

"There are some people of confiding dispositions who have of late not only imagined, but even expressed themselves verbally to the effect that because the public discussion of the inquities of protection has been somewhat intermitted since the Cincinnati Convention, therefore the popular belief in free trade has greatly diminished. The fact, however, is exactly to the contrary, for the number of determined, persistent opponents of Pennsylvania protection in every form in which it may manifest itself is now undoubtedly larger than ever, and in all future political contests is bound to show itself; for a man who has once sufficiently followed the dictates of reason and common sense to discard protection is sure to be an apostle and trumpeter in affirming his belief as were the old apostles of antislavery before the days of the Rebellion. The recent action of Congress (in refusing to take macaroni off the free list, and in ratifying that provision of the seventy-two tariff which admits hides and the products of the British colonial fisheries, other than fish caught in oil, into the United States free of duty), shows very significantly how the tide runs.

"The *World* is the ablest and most influential Democratic newspaper in the country, and the warnings it may be taken, now as heretofore, as indicating the purpose of the party in power. The New York *Times* is, perhaps, the most widely read of all the Republican or Administration journals, and it virtually gives notice that it will abandon protection and advocating free trade. Recently, in referring to the iron manufactures in the West, it gave utterance to the following sentiment, but nevertheless, so far as the *Times* is concerned, significant explanation of the causes of that growth:

"The truth seems clear from these figures that we have only to cultivate agriculture in any of the Western States, and domestic manufactures will spring up in their midst spontaneously. The wants of the farmer in house-but ding, harness-making, shoeing, and the manufacture of small machinery, the local mechanic will instinctively begin to supply. In short, the farmers' conventions, called to protest against the action of railroads, will be followed by others demanding protection upon all manufactured goods and handling crops. Let us quote a couple of these resolutions as samples of the whole. At a meeting of the Farmers' Association of Rock Island county, Illinois, House in Rock Island, on Saturday, 15th March 1873, the following resolution was adopted:

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As illustrative of the temper of the newspapers of both parties which are printed in the rural districts of Illinois, we give an extract from an appeal of the *Farmers' Gazette* to the farmers of Union county:

"Let them go through a thorough investigation of all the frauds on the which they have been asked to bear. Let them arraign the iron pirates of Pennsylvania, who have been allowed for years to levy blackmail upon the whole people, and let them show up 'protection' as the high-tariff kings understand it. Let them show up the railroad thieves, who have plundered all of the rich valleys of their productions, and who are preparing to abandon the country. Let them instruct the Legislature to call the persons of state sovereignty, and resolve that our members of Congress, in place of voting away millions of dollars of the hard earnings of their constituency, and rich manufacturers of the tariff rings of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts."

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HARRISBURG.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, April 8, 1873.

Both Houses have finally adopted the Appropriation and Apportionment bills, also the resolution for final adjournment on the 10th, and are making short work of pending legislation. The special order in the House was the new State Treasury bill, which passed.

The calendar of Senate bills was taken up. No Western bills were defeated, but the calendar was not half finished. The bill relating to the city of Scranton caused debate and the House adjourned.

The Governor sent in a veto of the National Trust Company of Pittsburgh, for the same reasons assigned in the Woods Run Savings bank.

Mr. McCormick had passed several small street bills under suspension of the rules, also a supplement allowing the Oakland Passenger Railway Company to establish a line of omnibusses.

There is a tremendous press of outsiders here, nearly crazy about their various bills. The members and clerks are nearly exhausted.

The following House bills will be on their final passage in the Senate to-morrow: Additional Law Judge for Allegheny county; Point bridge; Carnegie avenue; supplement to Woods Run Savings bank; Fort Herron Incline; Reserve township.

The Powder bill passed the Senate this afternoon.

The Senate passed the following House bills: Authorizing the removal of the dead in the Sharpsburg Presbyterian graveyard; divorcing Mary Louise Cochran and R. S. Cochran; repealing an act relative to good order in the Commissioner's offices; authorizing Verona to borrow money, enlarge its boundaries, open streets, etc.; enabling the Tube Company of McKeesport to lay gas and water pipes; authorizing Penn Avenue Building and Loan Association; repealing certain acts relating to the Pittsburgh Forges street, from Brady to Gist; supplement to the Penn avenue act; incorporating the Allegheny *Press* Company; incorporating the Elma Savings bank.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., April 9, 1873.

The last day of the session has been necessarily one of considerable confusion.

The act pensioning the Judges created debate, and was voted down in the Senate.

The list already published was passed, except the Point bridge, which was defeated.

The Fifth Ward school bill was opposed by Senator White and warmly supported by Senator Humphreys, but the point that the courts had power prevailed, and the bill went under.

Senator Humphreys had the vote on the gunpowder act reconsidered, and the bill was postponed.

The House calendar, containing many Western bills, was favorably acted on, including the South Side Land Company, additional powers to City Surcharge, Union Improvement Company, Union Passenger Railway, act authorizing the planting of shade trees on Liberty avenue, and the banking law.

The Military bill has passed both Houses, and provides for ten thousand men—two hundred companies, each to receive four hundred dollars.

To-day's proceedings will be devoted to complimentary speeches to retiring officers, etc. Speaker Elliot will be the recipient of a silver service costing seven hundred dollars, and Speaker Anderson, of the Senate, also of a very handsome one, the first event given to a speaker of the Senate.

H. J. Mason, of New York, reporter of the Senate, was found dead in bed at the Lochiel House, this forenoon. His death is supposed to have resulted from heart disease. Senator Rutan offered a joint resolution appropriating for the benefit of the family of the farmer in house-but ding, harness-making, and the manufacture of small machinery, the local mechanic will instinctively begin to supply. In short, the farmers' conventions, called to protest against the action of railroads, will be followed by others demanding protection upon all manufactured goods and handling crops. Let us quote a couple of these resolutions as samples of the whole. At a meeting of the Farmers' Association of Rock Island county, Illinois, House in Rock Island, on Saturday, 15th March 1873, the following resolution was adopted:

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That free traders are active in turning this railroad agitation to their own account is manifest to the most superficial observer, and being a fair opening for discussion and their desperation they strike right and left at all *properous* classes. Their condition is already desperate, and they could scarcely have been made thus far to solve it bode no good to the cause of protection. Hear the Chicago *Times*, a leading free trade paper:

"In order to get cheaper transportation for the products of the West must sell, the West (and the East for that matter) must have cheaper fuel; must be commercially enfranchised; must be able to buy in a cheaper and sell in a dearer market. The monopoly enslavement consists in legislation to restrict commercial liberty; in legislation to compel use of coal at a price that limits and cripples the export market. Emancipation from slavery of the monopoly power can only be attained by the liberation of commerce from legislative and monopolistic protection." The Senator for the Northern Pacific Railroad will be able to see that "the public welfare need not to go upon any junketing excursions at the expense of plundered taxpayers to discover this fact, for it is evident this is the paramount political question of the time."

We need not quote further, nor longer extend this article. Words are useless to the deaf, and through the very sullenness of protectionists, and their failure to realize the danger that lurks in every wrong, an opportunity has been offered to our enemies to "finish up the tariff question" in quite a different way from that which their friends would be inclined to rejoice over. We speak unto wise men, and they will have the wisdom to profit by it. But it has much to do with it, and the prospect is that unless the tariff will be injured more by it than by the assaults of its enemies. The farmers are writing very extortionate charges on their products to the manufacturing States of the East, or even for money which finds its way into the pockets of the farmers is only one-fourth or one-fifth of the amount which the consumer pays in the market. Here is the opportunity of free traders, and of such a character that they will be sure to use it. And that almost of all democratic papers, the Chicago *Times*, and they devote column after column to the farmers' movement. The roads cannot afford to carry freight and passengers at the present rates, and will be compelled to reduce the cost of railway materials. Increase as to this argument, it finds many foolish enough to believe it, and the farmers' movement, and the farmers' conventions, called to protest against the action of railroads, will be followed by others demanding protection upon all manufactured goods and handling crops. Let us quote a couple of these resolutions as samples of the whole. At a meeting of the Farmers' Association of Rock Island county, Illinois, House in Rock Island, on Saturday, 15th March 1873, the following resolution was adopted:

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The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, April 12, 1873.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, April 9, 1873.

The excited condition of affairs in the East has produced no marked effect here and monetary affairs seem to be going on much the same as usual. The demand from all sources continues much in excess of the supply, but the banks continue to be able to meet the wants of their own customers, but reject the claims of outside paper. Rates remain steady at eight to ten per cent, on the street, the market being well supplied with notes which are offered at from one to one and a quarter a month.

New York funds are scarce and in demand among the banks. We should not be surprised if bank notes would have to be shipped in that direction to meet the current wants of the banks.

Our remarks concerning Good Friday have occasioned considerable discussion and further inquiry has confirmed our opinion that the day is still a legal holiday. The act defining what shall be holidays raises a nice question as to Good Friday, and yesterday the whole question was referred to the Judiciary Committe—this morning the Attorney General telegraphed, "The Judiciary Committee of the Senate have reported unanimously that Good Friday is still a legal holiday and that no further legislation is necessary on that subject," which settles the question beyond a doubt. The banks can, of course, use their pleasure whether they close their doors or not, but they will have to observe the day by protesting on Thursday any unpaid paper maturing on Friday.

The law is explicit on this point, using the following language: They (the legal holidays) "shall for all purposes whatsoever as regards the presenting for payment or acceptance, and of the protesting and giving notice, of the dishonor of bills of exchange, bank checks, drafts and promissory notes made after the passage of this act, be treated and considered as is the first day of the week, commonly called Sunday."

—MESSRS. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cook & Co., their correspondents:

	Noon.	Evening.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	120¾	120¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	117¾	117¾
U. S. Bonds of 1864	113¾	113¾
U. S. Bonds of 1-65	119¾	119¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865, new	118¾	119
U. S. Bonds of 1867	117¾	117¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	117¾	117¾
10-40s	113¾	113¾
New 5s	113¾	113¾
Gold	113¾	113¾
Currency 6s	118¾	118¾

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quoted United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

April 9, 1873.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold	118	118	118¼	118¼	118¼	118¼
Clayton						
Western Union	84½	84½	85¾	85¾	85¾	85¾
Quicksilver						
Pacific Mail	36¾	36¾	36¾	36¾	36¾	36¾
Adams Express						
Wells, Fargo & Co						
American Express						
United States Express						
New York Central	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾	103¾
Erie	26¾	26¾	26¾	26¾	26¾	26¾
Michigan Central	103	103	103	103	103	103
Michigan Southern						
Illinois Central						
Cleveland and Pitts						
Chicago and N. W.						
Chicago and N. W. pref.						
Rock Island	113¾	113¾	114¼	113¾	114¼	114¼
St. Paul	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾
St. Paul pref.						
Wabash	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾	25¾
Wabash pref.						
Fort Wayne						
Ohio and Mississippi	44¾	44¾	45			
Union Pacific	32¾	32¾	32¾	32¾	32¾	32¾
Chicago and Alton						
Chicago and Alton pref.						
Boston, Hart. and Erie	3¾	3¾				
Hudson	129¾	129¾	129¾	129¾	129¾	129¾
New Jersey Central						
C. C. and I. C.						
Hannibal and St. Jo.						
Iron Mountain						
Atlantic Mail						

—Messrs. Robinson Bros., bankers, No. 78 Fourth avenue furnish the following quotations of active stock on the Philadelphia Stock Board to-day:

Penna. Central	56¾	Phila. and Erie	25½
Reading	37¾	Lehigh Navigation	38¾
United Cos.	119¾	Pittsburgh 5s	73
Oil Creek	31½	Lehigh Valley	41¾
Leigh Valley	41¾	Central Transport'n	41¾

Are We to Have a Dearth of Provisions?

The St. Louis *Globe* has the following: We ask the question in all seriousness, looking at the present excited condition of the market, and the large demand which accompanies it in every line. When we say provisions, of course our reference is to the hog product that is being consumed to an extraordinary, for home and foreign consumption, unparalleled in the history of trade. European buyers, who temporarily held off, are again in the field, and purchasing with renewed vigor. From every point embracing the home inquiry into consumption is the unexampled. The South, the North, the East and the West are making demands upon us disproportioned to any previous necessities. The income from country points at this time cannot be counted as largely additional to 40 general stocks, most of the manufacture having gone into futures, or awaiting movement at immediate points of shipment, the disposition of local holdings are also becoming precarious; some of our largest and best known packers of hams are sold out to the last canvas back. They are all retaining more or less of the meat material, it is true, but nothing compared with previous years. Roughly estimated, we probably hold fifteen millions, Chicago not much over thirty millions, Cincinnati probably fifty millions with its tributaries, and Louisville, without having a very accurate estimate of its capacity, say five to seven million pounds of the product in different shapes. Here is approximately estimated in four of the principal points one hundred to one hundred and five millions of pounds mess; the interior and other points might yield one-third of this amount, making in all probability one hundred and thirty million pounds unsold in the Western markets, to meet the grand demand of our own trade and that of the world between this and the opening season of the next November commencement. We may be largely deficient in our estimates, but they are predicated upon the views of gentlemen connected with the trade, who have the ordinary opportunities to judge of these matters, and generally meet these questions with more than usual consideration. If there is anything like an approximation to correctness in these opinions of stock, it will be found that even this large amount, apart from what may be used in our trade under the present prices, will be absorbed during the "meat" term now inaugurated, without awaiting the less pressing summer months. Mess pork also is in much smaller supply than season, compared with the product of former other styles of packing being in greater demand, and paying our dealers better. This article has consequently enhanced in value, and looks to large appreciation. That there will not be large accessions from this source to the market, when the rivers are thoroughly opened, we also take to prophesy, but the present indications are that the country folks are pretty well harvested, and the present outlook is upon which we will have to predicate speculations for the future. With all the elements of high appreciation, it will be well enough for our dealers to keep sufficient material on hand to meet the contingency that may arise for home demand.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, April 10, 1873.

REMARKS.—The market was decidedly firmer, with a further increase in prices. The demand was very heavy, prices having reached their lowest point, we may now look for an advance." There is yet, however, plenty of room for improvement in the own market before we are assisted to suffice per gallon. Parter's.—We learn of sales of 3,000 bbls at 22 11¾c; 1,500 bbls 22 3c, and 1,000 bbls at 22 25 per bbl.

REFINED.

Market firmer, the advance being fully ¼c per gallon since our last issue. This expresses with the advance in the raw material. Large lots are now held at 16¾c for standard white; but small parcels had lots 16a 16¾c was the asking prices.

OIL BARRELS.

The market was firmer. Prices have advanced. We quote country $1 85a1 90; city $2 00a2 05.

[By Western Union line.]

TITUSVILLE, April 9.—The Courier says: The market is firmer but very quiet at all points, and a general advance is anticipated. Oilers quiet but firm. Sales 5,000.

500 bbls upper road, spot.....$2 20¾
1,500 bbls upper road, spot.....2 22½
3,000 bbls Parker's, spot.....2 23¾
3,000 bbls Parker's, spot.....2 11¾
1,000 bbls, Parker's, spot.....2 24
1,000 bbls, Parker's, spot.....2 25

PETROLEUM CENTER, April 9.—Market quiet at $2 20.

ROUSSVILLE, April 9.—Market firmer and quoted at $2 20 bid; $2 25 asked; no sales.

OIL CITY, April 9.—Market quiet and firm at $2 30; upper road $2 15a2 17½; lower road $2 15a2 20.

PARKER, April 9.—Crude 9@9½c; refined 23c.

PHILADELPHIA, April 9.—Crude 9c; refined 23c, in bulk; bbls 13½c.

TITUSVILLE, April 9.—Market dull at $2 20a2 25.

ROUSSVILLE, April 9.—Market very quiet and prices unchanged at $2 22½a2 25.

OIL CITY, April 9.—Market quiet at $2 30a2 35.

HORSE SHOES.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, April 10, 1873.

The following are the rates for horse and mule shoes, as furnished by Shoenberger & Co.:

Horse shoes, ₱ keg 100 ℔ lots	$6 25
Horse shoes, ₱ keg 50 ℔ lots	6 50
Horse shoes, smaller lots	6 75
Mule shoes, ₱ keg, $1 ₱ higher.	

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, April 9, 1873.

REMARKS.—The rivers are well up to "flood tide," and as rain is falling as we write, late in the afternoon, the prospects are good for another "pumpkin flood," so that those interested should make a note of this and touch measures accordingly.

With regard to the general tone of the markets we have little now to give the reader, and that little will be found noted under the proper head. The spring trade has not yet fairly set in, but all the signs point to the inauguration at an early day, of one of the heaviest trades ever witnessed in Pittsburgh.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce received during the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	5,842	4,273	10,095
Apples, bbls	1,542	2,080	3,622
Cheese, boxes	35	50	85
Corn, sacks	5,092	3,473	7,165
Wheat, sacks	5,879	4,412	10,291
Barley, sacks	1,598	2,209	4,915
Rye, sacks	454	380	834
Oats, sacks ₱	10,170	9,029	18,149
Butter, packages	349	214	563
Bacon, pieces	2,755	1,020	3,775
Bacon, boxes	393	363	756

Below we give the ruling rates of the market, with the remark that they are wholesale prices, unless special mention is made to the contrary:

ALES.—Market quiet and unchanged in every particular. We quote X at $9 ₱ bbl; XX $10; porter $10; India ale $11.

APPLE BRANDY.—Small sales at 45a55c ₱ gallon.

APPLES.—Receipts heavy, being 634 barrels. The prices are graded as to quality and condition running from $1 50 to $3 00 ₱ barrel.

ASHES.—No change in prices. Common soda ash 4¾a5c; refined 6a6½c; pots 7¾a8½c; pearls 11c; arsenic 3¾a3½c; nitrate soda 4¼a5c; black lead 6c.

BACON AND PROVISIONS.—The recent advance has been fully maintained, and trade is reported fairly active at the following figures: Uncanvased sugar cured hams 14c; canvased do 14½c; uncanvased sugar cured shoulders 9c; canvased do 9¾c; plain shoulders 8c; rib sides 9c; clear sides 9¾c; clear backs 10c; uncanvased breasts 8¾c; breakfast bacon 12c; canvased do 12½c; uncanvased dried beef 13½c; canvased do 14c; mess pork $17 50; ham sausage 10c; leaf lard, in tierces, 9¾c; refined, in tierces, 10c; in half bbls, 10¾c; in kegs and buckets 11¾c. Receipts of bacon—tierces, 41; pieces, 1,020.

BUTTER.—Receipts 40 packages. Prices are lower, and we now quote as follows: Choice fresh roll 36a37c; prime 25a28c; common 10a12c; prime packed 19a20c; tubers 6½c per ℔.

BAKING POWDER.—Sales of 5 ℔ cans $2 75; 9 doz; 1 ℔ cans $5 00; ¾ ℔ cans $3 00; ½ ℔ cans $1 60.

BEANS.—Good to prime white navy sell at $2 90a3 00 ₱ ℔.

BROOM CORN.—Sales red at 3½@4c; green 5¾@6c; bait 5¾@6c.

BRIMSTONE.—Parish Mill rates: two bushel 37c; two and a half bushel 45c; three bushel 53c.

BUCKWHEAT.—Market unchanged at 1¾@1¾c for car lots, with the usual advance from stores in jobbing lots.

CRANBERRIES.—Sacketts and Carey's varieties $13@$14 ₱ bbl; eastern are held at $9 00@11 00, as to quality.

CIDER.—Market firm, at 8½@8¾c ₱ bbl.

COFFEE.—Rio—Receipts 2,500 sacks; the ruling figures of the market: Rios 9@10c; shoulders 6¾@7c; clear sides 7¾@8c; jowels 3c; dressed hogs 5¾@5¾c ₱ ℔. Country lard 7¾@8c.

DRIED FRUITS.—Prices tend lower. We quote as follows: Apples, sun-dried, 4¾a5c; do, evaporated, 7¾a8c; peaches, halves, 7¾@8c; peeled, 15a16c; blackberries, 9@11c; dried cherries, 8a8½c; seedless, 20a22c.

EGGS.—Receipts fairly active; prices lower; 15c offered and 16@17c asked. Prices are expected to go lower.

FLOUR.—The market for the past week has been an unusually brisk one. The stocks are very light and the demand is so great that they are taken on arrival. Prices remain unchanged, and we do not look for any advance soon, but think they will go lower, as the demand for spring is light and all livelihood prices lower. Fancy white wheat flours are still held high, owing to the scarcity of prime wheat. Dayton (Ohio) flours are more pretty and prices lower than they have been during the winter. Minnesin and Minnesota brands are firm at quotations. Low grades unsalable in this market.

The following are the ruling rates of the market:

Mills—National, white wheat, $10 20 ₱ bbl; sacks $9 80; Pan Handle, Southern amber, $9 60 ₱ bbl; sacks $9 20; Morning Glory, red winter wheat, $9 10 ₱ bbl; sacks $8 80. Soreee, Penn Mills, white, $10 ₱ bbl; sacks $8 80. Soreee, Penn Mills, amber, $9 ₱ bbl; sacks $8 60. Diamond brands, $8 ½ Rising Sun $8 00; Minnesota Island $8 60; Ford's Mills $7 50. Rye flour $5 50. Corn meal $3 00. Oat meal $5 00. Receipts 1,328 barrels.

FEATHERS.—Prime live geese feathers are held at 65a70c ₱ ℔.

GROCERIES.—The market is devoid of any new or interesting features. The spring trade, which civilens so much nearly every other branch of merchandise, has not yet opened, and wholesale dealers do not any longer buy a six months' stock, but supply themselves every thirty or sixty days. On this account the trade of most of our grocery houses is much the same all through the year. Difficulty in transportation in the winter on account of bad roads has detracted very much from trade during the past month, but the present fine weather will doubtless soon remove the obstacle. Prices are without material change, and we do not also count on any decline. There is very little being done in coffee on account of the high premium on gold and the unsettled state of prices. It looks, however, as if the importers would be able eventually to hold up prices and by crowding process the consumers, as they cannot do this they will suffer heavy losses. There is nothing new to note with regard to sugar. This staple is certainly very cheap at present prices, and dealers in want need not be afraid to buy, as prices are sells slowly, but prices are well sustained. Below we give the ruling quotations of the market:

Sugars—Hards 12¾c; A 11¾c; B 11¼c; extra C 11¼c; C 10¾c; Cuba 10½c. New Orleans Sugars—Good 9c; prime 10c; choice 10¾c.

Coffees—Roasted Rio—Packages 17c; loose 26½c. Green Rio—Fair 21c; good 22c; prime 23c; old government Java 28c.

Syrups—Common 38@40c; Crystal 55c; H A E XXX 60c; maple flavored 60a65c; Union 70c; Phoenix 70c; white drips $1 20.

Tea—Carolina 35@38c; Rangoon 73@85c.

New Orleans Molasses—Choice 80c; strictly prime 7c; prime 75c ₱ gallon.

Pacific Syrups—

Raisins—Layers $2 50; Valentchenas 10c; Muscatels $2 25 ₱ box.

GRAIN.—We report the following receipts of grain since our last, exclusive of elevator:

Wheat, sacks	1,010	Corn, sacks	2,288
Barley, sacks	170	Corn, sacks	480

We have no changes to make in the ruinnes of the market, and give the following as the ruling rates: Wheat—White $1 85@1 90; red winter $1 80@1 85. Oats—White 46c; mixed 42c; black 40c. Barley—Shelled 52@55c; car lots; mixed 52c; market reported dull. Rye nominally 9 c. Barley quiet at 85c@$1 00 for fair to prime; spring nominal.

HAY.—Baled, in wharf and truck, $25@30, as to quality. Demand moderate.

POULTRY.—Sales of live chickens at 75@80c per pair; dressed 10@16c per ℔; Turkeys scarce; dressed nominal per ℔.

POTATOES.—Prime peach blows meet ready sale at 80@90c ₱ bush. Sweet potatoes $4 50@5 00 ₱ bbl.

MINCE MEATS.—Sales standard brands at 12c ₱ ℔.

PEA NUTS.—Sell at 4½@5½c ₱ ℔.

MILL FEED.—Middlings $1 60@1 80; seconds $1 40; white $1 60; chopped corn and oats $1 40; chopped corn $1 25; bolted corn meal $1 25.

PICKLES.—Sales of cucumbers—Maple sugar 12@13c, rough; cakes 11@12c ₱ ℔. Syrup $1 25@1 50 ₱ gallon; in bulk, 60@65c.

IRON.—Prices 2¼ 00@4 50 ₱ 100 ℔.

LARD OIL.—Sales No. 1 at 70@72; jobbing lots 72@ 75c ₱ gallon.

ONIONS AND ONION SETS.—Silver skins $6 50@7 00 ₱ bbl; sets $1 75@$2 00 ₱ bush.

RAGS.—Sales at 3@3½c ₱ ℔.

SALT.—Sales extra No 1 at $1 65 ₱ bbl; No 2 $1 15.

SAPOLIO.—$6 00 ₱ case of 6 doz each.

SEEDS.—Clover seed $2 25; timothy seed $3 75@4 00; flaxseed $1 25@2 00 ₱ bush.

TALLOW.—Sales at 8@8½c ₱ ℔.

WHISKY.—Highwines 89@91c ₱ gal.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, ILL., April 9, 1873.

FLOUR—Quiet and unchanged.

GRAIN—Wheat dull and market unsettled; No 2 spring Chicago $1 20¾; $1 19 cash; seller May $1 21. No 3 spring $1 06@1 06½; rejected 96c. Corn steady; No 2 mixed 30¾@30½c; 34¾@34½c seller May. Oats quiet and weak; No 2, 24¾c cash. Barley dull and nominal; fall No 1 45@46c; No 2, 45@46c.

PROVISIONS—Unchanged. Mess pork $15 70, seller May; do June $15 95. Lard steady at 8¾c cash, and 8¾@8¾c seller May. Bulk meats steady and unchanged.

WHISKY—Quiet and unchanged at 86¾c.

SEEDS—Clover seed quiet at $4 66a4 70.

New York Live Stock Market.

NEW YORK, April 7.—Beeves—Total for the week 6,419 head, against 8,685 head last week, and 6,992 head the corresponding week of last year; fresh receipts 196 cars, or 3,920 head. No Canadas in yesterday, 80 cars at One Hundredth street, and 14 cars at Weehawken; the supply is comparatively light for the day and the week, and the downward movement, so marked from Tuesday to Saturday, was checked, and some salesmen are looking for a slight advance from the rates of last Friday; but generally the prices are quite similar to those current on the same day in Friday; poor to best Texans 9¾a11c; poor to prime native steers 10a13c, to dress 55 and 58 lbs to the gross cwt; choice to fancy selections 13¼a14c, to dress 59 and 60 lbs to the gross cwt; sales include 6 cars rough Texan, 55¾ cwt, $7 75; 17 cars fair do, 954 cwt, 10¾c; 2 cars good Cherokee cattle, 5¾ cwt, 10¾a 11c; 5 cars Illinois steers, 7¾ cwt, 12c; 5 cars do, 8 cwt, 12c; 5 cars do, 8¼ cwt, 12c; 13 cars do, 1,¼ cwt, 12¾c; 5 cars choice do, 8¾ cwt, 12¾a13c; 10 cars good do, 7¾ cwt, 13¼a13c; 7 cars light do, 6¾ cwt, 11¾c; 2 cars bulls, 4¾c, and 4 cars thin 6¾ cwt, 11¾c; 2 cars bulls, 4¾c, and 4 cars thin steers,

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1873.

THE latest railroad achievement of Colonel THOMAS A. SCOTT—or rather the latest reported—is the acquisition of the North Louisiana and Texas Railroad, which therefore becomes a part of the Texas and Pacific Railroad, forming another link in his grand trans-continental line. This will give new life to Vicksburg.

THE movement to restrict the railways in their tariff discriminations is becoming general. Six States have moved in that direction during the past month—Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, New York, and New Jersey. The Eastern States are also rapidly waking up to an interest in the transportation question, about which the West is already so much agitated. The Boston *Journal of Commerce* points out that when manufacturers cannot live by raising produce their will do their own manufacturing, and adds: "If our merchants desire to retain their Western trade, they must aid the West to obtain facilities to reach the seaboard."

AN important decision will shortly be rendered by the Supreme Court of the United States, upon the question whether a proclamation becomes effective from or after the date on which it was officially made public. The case involves a number of large cotton cases pending in the Court of Claims. The proclamation in question was dated June 24, 1865, and removed all restriction in trade for the territory west of the Mississippi, but was not made public in any form till the 27th of the same month. In the meantime many heavy transactions had taken place. The government contends for the latter position, and it is regarded as pretty certain that the Court will sustain this view.

A NUMBER of communications have been addressed to us making inquiries concerning the new political movement said to be on foot in this State for the purpose of "securing purity of elections." Our only sources of information concerning the proposed combination are those which are open to our correspondents—common rumor. We are, however, decidedly inclined to the belief that it is a mere freebooting adventure cloaked under a talking name, and that the real object of its leaders is the acquisition of political loot. Captain KIDD's assumption of the command of a vessel would very naturally beget a suspicion that there was piracy in view, notwithstanding that he might have shaved off his whiskers and adopted the garb of a Quaker. It is said that MCCLURE is at the head of the reported movement.

THE Agricultural Society of this State some time ago appointed a committee to examine into the question of silk culture. The committee have just rendered their report, in which they state that a revival of silk culture would be of great benefit, as much as five and a-half millions of dollars' worth of raw silk now being imported yearly into the United States. The profits from rearing silk-worms are something wonderful, if the estimates of writers on silk culture are to be accepted. According to the United States Agricultural report for 1870, very large returns have been derived by the few persons in this country whose attention has been directed to this business. Moreover, it has been fully proved that neither soil nor climate is unfavorable to its success. The mulberry tree grows well. The silk-worm is actually reared year by year among us. The difference in the cost of labor here and elsewhere is not fatal. That which is most wanted is training to the processes of rearing and reeling, and it is fair to infer that very satisfactory average profits will be made when people take this in hand and enforce order, system, regularity, and procure the training and education that are essential to success.

THE Commissioner of Agriculture has published a circular for the benefit of manufacturers and others who have sent or intend sending machines to Vienna for competition at the approaching Exhibition, concerning the proposed "field trials of agricultural machinery," which are to take place at Leopoldsdorf and Guttenhof, both of which are State railroad stations, distant four and one-half and two German miles from Vienna. They will be held between the 15th of June and the 30th of July, according to the state of the crops and of the weather. Machines, bearing the exhibitor's name, country and residence, are to be directed to the "Chief Manager of the Vienna Universal Exhibition of 1873," at the Siebenbrunn Railway Station, Staatsbahn. Exhibitors must care themselves for the transport of their machines to and from the place of trial, and also procure the motive power and assistance for the machines working in the field. The quality of the material of which the machines are made, the excellence of construction, the applied draft or steam power, the consumption of coal, the indicator diagrams of the steam engine, the whole produce as to quantity and quality—all these points will be jointly set down in a general table, to serve in the deliberations of the jury as helps and guides for awarding prizes. Great importance is attached to these trials by the leading firms of England, Belgium and Germany, and a lively interest is felt in the result of the competition by the landed proprietors of Austria, Hungary, the Danubian Principalities, and the Russian Steppes, whose wheat is shipped from Odessa. The earliest period fixed for the production of the implements and machinery on the ground is June 10, so that there is yet ample time for transmission from the United States of machines intended for competition.

THE FARMERS AND THE RAILROADS.

Perhaps no more important subject at present engages the attention of any considerable portion of the American people than the subject of railroad monopoly. Over vast areas of the great West what is called the Railway Question is the "burning question" of the time, the topic which most people are thinking and talking about, and which awakens the liveliest interest, and interest steadily growing more intense. The Illinois *State Zeitung*, which has taken a prominent, if not the leading part in the agitation of the subject, and whose labors in the cause lately received special recognition in a letter of thanks from Mr. Minister WASHBURNE, confidently predicts that in the National Conventions of 1876 the question will form the turning point of party movements. This seems to be the expectation of Mr. WASHBURNE also, who visited the West last summer, and whose keen perception of popular tendencies will hardly be doubted. The *Zeitung* likens the movement to the last great movement which stirred the nation. At first the people demanded nothing more than that slavery should not be extended beyond the limits within which it already existed. To this end by ballot they satisfied with nothing less than its abolition. As regards the railroads, the present demand is merely that they shall be prohibited from exacting higher freight rates for short than for longer distances; but this modest and reasonable requirement being arrogantly disregarded and resisted by the companies concerned, the claims of their opponents will certainly advance until nothing less will satisfy them than the principle of State and National roads. In this conflict, says the *Zeitung*, Illinois is the scene of the opening skirmish, as Kansas was the scene of the prelude to the great civil war: already the movement is extending to Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin, and it has also begun in New Jersey in the East.

Readers who have not heretofore paid much if any attention to the subject, will be interested in a statement of some details illustrative of the grievance referred to which the Western farmers find so exasperating. They are derived from the authority already named, which derived them from a report lately presented to a farmers' anti-railroad meeting.

From Chicago, a distance of seventy-four miles, a car load of hogs costs $29 50 freight, while from Meriden to the same city, a distance of eighty miles, the cost is only $25 50, and from Mendota, a distance of eighty-four miles, it is $28. Formerly the freight rate on the same load from Carl to Chicago was only $17. At the same time, when a bushel of corn at the crib was worth to the farmer from fifty to seventy-five cents, the freight on a hundred weight to Chicago was only nine cents; but now when a bushel of corn at the crib is worth hardly twenty-three cents, the freight on a hundred weight is four-teen cents.

At the beginning of February a farmer named LEWIS, of Somonauk, in Illinois, dispatched 775 bushels of wheat to Boston, where it was sold for 75 cents a bushel, yielding a gross return of $565 79. But the final result of the transaction was far from satisfactory. 23 cents per hundred weight $362 46 were paid out in freight; $6 72 were paid for storage and inspection, and $14 15 were paid as commission, these sums amounting to a total of $385 33, which being deducted from the price of the wheat left $180 46 in Mr. LEWIS's pocket; 23¼ cents a bushel for his wheat! In order to find his profit, of course the cost of production must be deducted. But with that item we are not concerned. For the 775 bushels of wheat sent to Boston the farmer receives in return the price there paid for 126 bushels, while the price of the remaining 608 bushels he pays out as costs, the price of 496 bushels falling to the railroad company alone in the form of freight. Between the barn in Illinois and Boston, of every six bushels of wheat dispatched five are absorbed in the cost of transportation and other expenses.

But the peculiarly and especially exasperating fact still remains to be mentioned. And even the least sympathetic nature will be able to understand the indignation of the farmer at Somonauk, Mr. LEWIS, for instance, on learning that from Ottumwa, situated on the same railroad (the Burlington-Quincy), *but two hundred miles further from Boston*, the freight rate to Boston is ten cents per hundred weight less than it is from Somonauk! Incredible as it may seem, this is the case, and therefore the farmer who lives two hundred miles further from Boston would receive for the quantity of wheat referred to above $43 60 more than Mr. LEWIS received. That is, he would have to pay so much the less to the railroad for its transportation.

Farther, we are told that the differences of freight rates from the East to Chicago and from Chicago to the smaller stations in the interior are enormous. Thus, the freight on four boxes of glass from Pittsburgh to Chicago (340 miles) is 45 cents; while from Chicago to Carl (74 miles) it is 71 cents, and in many instances the freight from Boston to Chicago (1,100 miles) is cheaper than from Chicago to Carl.

In conclusion the *Staats Zeitung* says:

"These are only a few examples, yet they suffice to show the truly demonic power which the railways exercise over the entire production and intercourse of the country. As in despotic States the autocrat by a mere nod, a stroke of the pen, can render countless human beings miserable, so our great railway companies have it in their power, by relaxing or drawing tighter the thumbscrew of the freight tariff, to annihilate the prosperity of whole districts and communities and to raise up others in turn. The alteration of a cipher in the rate of freight suffices to draw from the pockets of producers hundreds of thousands, even millions of dollars, and to throw them into the money bags of the railway princes. Thus the railway stock system has become an Alp which presses with crushing weight upon the industrial activity of the country. Yet so soon as the people shall have comprehended the full extent of the peril, redress is assured."

GEN. FREMONT'S SENTENCE.

American newspapers in general say little if anything about the FREMONT case. Probably every citizen of the republic, not an outspoken cynic, would be pleased if it were possible, to suppress a fact so mortifying to the national self-esteem. It is useless to remind them of the manifest truth that, the acts of no single American, however prominent his position, could compromise the reputation of his compatriots. The assertion may be sound philosophy, but it fails to obliterate the instinctive feeling that the condemnation of such a man as FREMONT in a foreign court for swindling fixes a stigma upon the American name. "It is the crime, not the scaffold which creates the ignominy," and therefore in a sentimental view of the subject there is small comfort in the reflection that he was condemned to five years imprisonment *par contumace* and not precisely on the merits of the case. Indeed, the fact which makes such essential difference to him, perhaps rather aggravates than mitigates the reflected dishonor of the sentence, as the tendency must be quite irresistible to believe that if the inculpated American had felt conscious of his own innocence he would have gone to Paris, confronted his accusers, and submitted to the process of the court. There is nothing either in the history or in the reputation of modern French courts to warrant doubt that an American of General FREMONT's distinction placed on trial at a French bar would have received fair and just treatment. Though absent himself, his cause was defended by one of the most eminent members of the legal profession in France.

General FREMONT is represented as complaining that, in declaring him guilty by default, the Paris tribunal did him a great wrong, because it had neither sent him a summons to be present, nor given him any such notice of the approach of the trial as might enable him to attend voluntarily. The reply to this assertion is that, according to French law, every citation to appear before a court is given to the party concerned either at his present or at his last known domicile; and there is no reason to doubt that all due legal formalities were complied with in the case. Besides, it is simply impossible to believe that General FREMONT was not fully aware of the time fixed for the trial. Even if his lawyer failed to inform him, public rumor would have sufficed to inform him of an event in which his honor and interest were so deeply involved. In fact, his lawyer, M. ALLOU, publicly stated at the trial that he had fully expected his client to appear in person before the tribunal.

Some readers may need to be told that by French law a sentence *par contumace* is founded upon the facts alleged in the indictment. In the absense of the accused, these allegations are assumed to be true except as they are refuted by the allegations and evidence of the other side, and the judgment based upon them is subject to revision by the tribunal on appeal. And one of his friends, writing to a New York paper, says that, the General is irresolute what course to pursue, though it is probable, he states, that, after receiving full information from France, he will decide to appear before the court in Paris, and demand to be tried *de novo* on the merits of the case. Certainly this is the upright and manly way of proceeding, and the course which FREMONT's friends and fellow-countrymen can not but wish him to pursue.

If, unfortunately, he shall decide otherwise, and conclude to bear the ignominy of his sentence in silence, there are probably few Americans who will refuse to accept the decision of the French tribunal as substantially just. But even this unflattering inference will not form the sole stigma thus placed upon the General's reputation; in the sinister light of this disgraceful French affair, many of his compatriots will recollect that old charge, now for the most part forgotten, according to which FREMONT founded his reputation as a *scientific* explorer upon the papers which the French Geographer, NICOLLET, on his death bed placed in his hands for transmission to Washington. It is an obvious truth that the swindler of the poor would not hesitate to appropriate without acknowledgment a companion's scientific researches.

AMERICAN REPUTATION ABROAD.

In the multiplication of crimes against life, even the most patriotic American will hardly deny that his own country has for some time taken the lead among all the countries of Christendom. It is true that France may seem entitled to dispute the palm, and possibly to occupy a position of decided superiority in the calendar of bloody atrocities. A band of young scoundrels was lately brought to light by the French police, who were proved to have committed sixty acts of murder and robbery, and the existence of another similar band has been revealed. Every day or two also dead bodies are found floating in the Seine bearing the marks of having been murdered. They are generally found to be strangers, either English or Americans or Belgians, who have fallen victims to their own confidence or to their ignorance of the ways of the great city. Americans, however, can not fairly draw much consolation for wounded national self-esteem from the comparison, as they remember that France has lately passed through a terrible war as well as suffered terrible internal convulsions; perturbations which naturally produce extensive demoralization and are usually followed by an abundant harvest of crime. Then there is just as little comfort in considering the immediate causes to which the crimes committed in each country are respectively traceable. While in France they are all or nearly all the results of avarice or want, a fearful proportion of the murders committed on this side of the water are prompted by revenge or jealousy—passions which are accustomed to set the law at defiance only in countries deeply demoralized by misrule and the reign of vice.

But it is not such crimes of violence, however numerous or atrocious they may have been, which have recently done most to injure the United States and their citizens in the estimation of the world. No intelligent American can seek to be told that American reputation for honesty in money matters has long been bad in Europe. With most it was a mere prejudice, and even where the feeling rested on assignable reasons, it was usually very much exaggerated by Tory hatred for Democracy, and Democrats, and yet the social and intellectual influence of those who entertained it was so great as to be able to propagate the impression much beyond their own ranks. Thus European Liberals or even theoretical republicans have for many years been wont frankly to acknowledge deficient scrupulosity in pecuniary affairs as the blot upon our national character. The evil repute may have been our misfortune rather than our fault, but its existence was a fact which exposed both national and individual acts, and even language to misconstruction and injurious suspicion, and which has directly and indirectly cost us millions of money more or less in the establishment and maintenance of our public credit. A villainous suggestion of a thoughtless or unprincipled journalist, or the babble of an unscrupulous demagogue on the floor of Congress, was at once repeated in the newspapers of Europe, and was talked about by millions as being simply character-istic of American notions of financial honor. Hence less than almost any other of the nations could we afford to exhibit such a scandal and indeed all France have lately been excited over the Memphis-El-Paso Trans-continental Railroad affair, a gigantic American fraud by which more than six millions of francs were taken from the pockets of poor French people, chiefly peasants and small shopkeepers. In this affair, lately the subject of investigation in the Paris courts, the most conspicuous figure is that of General FREMONT, once candidate for the Presidential chair, and the next most conspicuous person is the General's brother-in-law, who, however, is a Frenchman—M. GAUDNER-BOUILLARD. It is a Parisian jibe that he studied ethics in New York, where he spent many years as French Consul General. At the late trial the *Procureur* of the French Republic, with an equally pungent sneer said of FREMONT, "Of all the philosophy of the New World this man knows only one thing—the dollar! (*Cet homme la ne connait qu' une chose, c'est le dollar!*)"

It is no doubt known to most readers that General FREMONT denies that he has been guilty of any wrong in connection with this deplorable business, and that he claims to have been deceived and imposed upon like others. We certainly have neither qualification nor call to decide upon his guilt or innocense. We refer to the trial merely as a misfortune; certain in association with other things to confirm European prejudices against the American character. And Americans now in Europe assure us that, the effect has really been produced; one of them in a late letter to a New York paper, referring to the recent Bank of England forgery, says: that, if things go on as they have been going for some time, American gentlemen who visit Europe need not be astonished if before leaving a place where they have dined, the master of the house shall require them to let their pockets be examined.

THERE are probably few old citizens of Pittsburgh living who do not remember Father MAGUIRE, the Irish priest, who during so many years presided over the only Catholic church in the town. Pittsburghers of the younger generations must have often heard him talked about. Though a good Catholic he was very popular with the Protestant portion of the community, and lived on most intimate terms even with some of the Presbyterian pastors. Dr. HERRON, and Drs. BLACK and BRUCE and Father MAGUIRE are said to have been great friends, being able to meet together on the common ground of literature, and if they ever disputed on religious subjects, their controversy awakened no personal asperity. Miss. SARAH M. BROWNSON, daughter of ORESTES A. BROWNSON, in her lately published "Life of the Rev. D. A. GALLITZIN, Prince and Priest," gives a brief notice of Father MAGUIRE, which some of our readers will be pleased to see. Sketching the history of the Roman Church in Western Pennsylvania, Miss BROWNSON says:

"Finally, in 1817, a new priest, Rev. Charles B. Maguire, arriving in this country, the administrator of the diocese, very Rev. Louis de Barth, hastened to request him to take Mr. Heilbron's place at Sportsman's Hall, as it continued to be styled. Mr. Maguire accepted the charge, and having relatives in Cambria county, visited Father Gallitzin on the way, preaching a German sermon in the Loretto church, while the pastor, who was always regarded as a German, gave an English one. Both were somewhat to the surprise of the faithful, who said: 'Here an Irishman preaches in German and a German in English!'

"Mr. Maguire was born in the county of Tyrone, Ireland, December 10, 1790; was ordained, and sent to the Propaganda, where he was ordained, and sent to Germany. His adventures there and afterwards in France during the troublous days of the Revolution, his narrow escapes would fill a volume. At the time of his arrival in this country he was in the full vigor of his manhood, tall and portly, of a commanding presence, with a good humored, highly colored countenance, a rich, sonorous voice, ready command of language; a popular preacher with no apparent merit except that of having been Count Reynold's chaplain, but one who thoroughly appreciated an easy chair, a dinner well served, a good story well told; jovial, witty, equal to any emergency, and overpowering in argument."

MR. MAGUIRE "finding himself unable to bear the temporal difficulties and spiritual burdens his position in the country imposed upon him," removed in 1820 to Pittsburgh, where, we believe, he remained as long as he lived.

Governor John F. Hartranft.

A wonderful change has come over those quasi Republican journals who, during the last campaign in this State, so persistently cried down Gen. Hartranft, and predicted, in case of his success, the most doleful disasters to the people of the commonwealth. The Inquirer, which was one of the chief of this class of newspapers, and it has now acknowledged its error. So also, has the Lancaster *Express*, and others of the ilk.

The *Eagle*, the Democratic organ in Reading, complimentes the Governor in the following language:

"Contrary to our expectations of the course of John F. Hartranft as Governor—expectations formed by his administration of the Auditor General's office—he, so far, has pursued since he has been Governor, a manly, honorable and independent course, for which the people of all parties will give him credit. If he continues through his term the way he has begun, he will be as popular with the masses as a Snyder or a Shunk."

The Scranton *Republican* was for a time outspoken in its opposition to Gen. Hartranft. The following extract from one of its recent leaders on editorials denotes a change in its views of the man:

"Pursued, misrepresented and traduced by his political and personal enemies during the whole long campaign of last year, even many of those who voted for him began to fear that they had aided in the elevation of a man unworthy of the high honorable and responsible position of Chief Executive of the Commonwealth. Those who have been the bitter enemies of Governor Hartranft during the campaign did not even cease their hostility when the ballot-boxes were closed, but proceeded to instil into the public mind apprehension that every department of the State government would be turned over into the hands of public plunderers and political villains; that the people should be prepared to see corruption and powerful combinations run riot in the government, depleting the treasury and robbing the people of their substance and rights. Gov. Hartranft has been in office long enough, and done enough, to enable the people, entirely divested of party feeling, to form a clear and correct judgment of the man and the policy of his administration. It is needless to say here that all apprehensions of danger to the State government or the interests of the people have already vanished. The dignified, brave and sound policy inaugurated by Governor Hartranft has confirmed the hopes of those who supported him in the campaign, and to put to shame those who judged him so unjustly and sharply in advance, even before the time for entering upon his duties arrived. Fortunately, to admit that they were mistaken in this man, and give him credit for having adopted a policy in full accord with the interests and wishes of the people. He has not surrounded himself by corrupt politicians, nor has he been controlled in his official acts by selfish demagogues and corporation influences. Thus far his administration has furnished abundant evidence of wisdom, justice, and statesmanship. Whether we attribute these noble qualities directly to Governor Hartranft, as his own embodiment, or to his official advisers, is of little importance.

"Thus far the Executive has become especially prominent by his liberality in pardoning offenses, and hasty and special legislation. He stands as a safeguard between the people and that dangerous species of legislative enactment that has been so odious and burdensome in the past. During the present session of the Legislature he has vetoed a number of private and special bills, to the great satisfaction of the people and the indignation of those who expected to be benefited at the public expense. Many of his veto messages are models of sound argument, and in the meantime, not a single evidence that could be given in defense of, and the necessity for constitutional reform. In another column we give in full the message vetoing the bill appropriating $75,000 for the sufferers by the Somerset fire. That message bears upon it the impress of sound reasoning, constitutional justice, and the highest care for the protection of the State Treasury. A careful perusal of its contents convinces us more firmly than ever that our State is in safe hands, and when taken in connection with all the official acts of Governor Hartranft since he assumed the Executive chair, naturally leads us to the conclusion that our State has not in many years had a more conscientious, honest and just Governor than John F. Hartranft. And this conviction is forcing itself upon fair minded men of all parties.

"He may not be doing more than Pennsylvania has a right to expect of him, but he is one of the few of the almost superhuman efforts made by malignant partisans to prejudice the public mind in advance against Governor Hartranft, is no more than due to him that the virtues of his administration be given the prominence they deserve."

A Singing Somnambulist.

[From the Troy Times.]

The most curious case of somnambulism we ever heard of occurred to a young lady in this city night before last. She resides in a neighboring village, and is visiting some friends here. On Tuesday evening there was a social gathering at the house of a gentleman on Eighth street, to which she was invited, and during the evening she was asked to sing. She began an accomplished musician and singer of more than ordinary sweetness, she responded to the demands of the company for repeated songs, until she quite exhausted herself. The company broke up about one o'clock, and at two o'clock the young lady retired. In about an hour music was heard proceeding from her room. It continued so long that one of the members of the family arose, and upon entering the apartment of the young lady found her asleep and singing with all her power. She tried to awaken her, but her effort was unavailing. She continued to sing, going from one song to another, for upward of an hour, when suddenly seemed to be exhausted, and the somnambulist sank into a real sleep. Upon awaking the next morning she knew nothing of the occurrence.

THE New York *Bulletin* states that President Grant, in conversation with a leading financier during the recent visit to that city, defended the silliness expression in his message to Congress and in his congratulatory letter to Secretary Boutwell, that the American people wished no change to be made in the financial legislation of the administration. He said that the question was made the leading issue in the late Presidential canvass; that Secretary Boutwell addressed the merchants and business men in New York, Boston, Chicago, St. Louis and all the commercial centers, and that the unanimous response sufficiently expressed the desire of the people for the continuance of the present system. Hence, when Secretary Boutwell retired the President's chief desire was to find some person capable of carrying out his policy, and for a time Gen. Butler seemed to possess the requisite qualities for this purpose more than Judge Richardson, and this fact led to his appointment as Mr. Boutwell's successor. The President seems very strong in his convictions that the approval of the financial policy of his administration, as expressed by the popular vote, and of his duty to adhere to it under all circumstances. He steadily refused to see any force in the objections that he might have made to the policy of others on this point, or to comprehend that there was any necessary connection between the result of the Presidential contest and Mr. Boutwell's peculiar plans of financiering. He certainly did not seem impressed with the idea that he owes his re-election to the ex-Secretary's superior management of the national finances, and of the obligations imposed upon him to carry it out in all its details during the next four years of his administration.

SOME well-marked cases of deafness resulting from going down in a diving bell are reported in London. It seems that one of these machines is suspended from a crane in the Polytechnic Institution of that city, and is usually let down in a deep tank every evening. Those desirous of thus going under water are permitted to descend. But, resulting from such excursions, it is alleged, the sense of hearing is impaired. More than eight years since—so it is related—a young lady felt a pain in her ears while under the bell. On coming to the surface, one ear was nearly deaf, and the hearing in the other defective. The advice of an aurist proved of no avail.

STATE NEWS.

Only thirty-four persons—men, woman and children—attended the spiritualists' State convention in Philadelphia, this week.

German Lutheran church, Lancaster was dedicated on Sunday.

A little son of Mr. Jacob Clemmens, of Mountville, Lancaster county, was drowned on Tuesday by falling into water in the cellar which had been flooded by the recent heavy rains.

The Scranton *Republican* says: Mr. Jonathan Silsbee, one of the oldest settlers of Blakely, aged eighty-five was buried yesterday in Peckttown. He had lived with his wife, who is eighty-one years old in the same old house he had built in the forest half a century ago. It is a singular coincidence that Mr. Isaac Vaughn, of Providence, and his wife Nancy are of the same age as Mr. and Mrs. Silsbee—the men being each eighty-five years old and the women eighty-one years of age. The most singular feature in the case is that Mrs. Silsbee and Mr. Vaughn each married sixty-three years ago.

Richard Jenkins disappeared from Providence, Luzerne county, ten days ago, and it is feared he has been murdered for his money. His faithful dog, which always accompanied him when out of the mines, returned home the next day after his master was missing, covered with blood, as if he had been engaged in a fight, and has since refused his master's carried a moment, manifesting great uneasiness, left the house again and has not been seen since.

The Rev. John. F. Wilbur, of the Pecktown (Luzerne county) Methodist Episcopal church, who has labored acceptably and uncomplainingly for twenty-four years, at an average annual salary of $400, is now assured on good authority that he is one of the heirs of the celebrated Chace estate in England, which will ere long distribute its millions, awaiting the claimants. He would do well perhaps, to stick to his $400 a year till he receives his "divvy" from England.

Col. J. H. Puleston, formerly editor of the Pittston *Gazette*, and now of the banking firm of Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., London, is a candidate for a seat in the English House of Commons. Of course, with every prospect of being returned. Col. P. is a Welshman by birth.

William Jones, William Jones and a little daughter of Elijah Hunt, of Lancaster, have died very suddenly within a few days past. Spotted fever was the cause in two of these cases.

In Somerset borough, on Thursday morning last, an interesting daughter of Dr. A. P. Haley, five years of age, fell down a flight of stairs and received injuries resulting in her death in a few hours afterwards.

Duck shooting is very lively in the river in the vicinity of Harrisburg.

The trout-fishing season began on Tuesday to end on the 15th day of June next.

The editor of the Clearfield *Raftsman's Journal* boasts of having taken a sleigh ride on Thursday of last week.

About fifty rafts of timber were torn from their moorings in the vicinity of Clearfield, last week, by the sudden rise in the West Branch. Most of the logs will be rescured by the owners, but the loss will be quite heavy.

The old Revolutionary camp ground at Valley Forge, has been leased by Charles H. Rogers, Esq., to the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company for two years, for a ten-cent ground.

Mrs. Crull, one of the oldest residents of Tidioute, died at the residence of her son-in-law, J. Shaw, on Sunday night, at an advanced age. Her husband, who yet survives, served in the 1812-15 war, and the venerable pair settled in this section while the country was yet a comparative wilderness.

A full-grown bald eagle, measuring six feet from tip to tip of its wings, was shot near Bridgeport, Dauphin county, a few days since.

Several deer were captured in the vicinity of Laporte last week. The Sullivan *Press and Standard* says those left in the woods will probably starve to death.

Apartments to let in the Sullivan county jail. The institution is without a single occupant.

The season for deaths from rope-jumping has arrived. A nine-year-old daughter of Mr. Jas. Jones, of Jersey Shore, jumped the rope 240 times, on Thursday last, and died in a few hours thereafter from nervous prostration.

The measles is very prevalent and unusually fatal among the children in Erie.

Charles B. Cloud, whilom hotel keeper in Erie, has beclouded his fair reputation by folding his tent and stealing away, leaving numerous unliquidated bills behind.

A cheese factory is to be built at Keepville, Erie county, near the Crawford county line. It will be ready for business at the opening of the season.

S. D. Neal, of Conneautville, had about $200 worth of hay destroyed by the cold weather during the past winter.

Mr. Joseph Barnes died in Spring township, Crawford county, on Wednesday, aged eighty-four years.

Mr. Asrie Dibble, of Summerhill township, had a narrow escape from death a few days since. While in the barnyard, a cow became enraged at a little dog and attacked Mr. D., knocking him down and injuring him quite severely. By the timely arrival of assistance the animal would have killed him.

Wyoming is much abound in Erie, greatly to the disgust of the authorities.

Mr. C. C. Eyre has shown at the Philadelphia *Ledger* office a quarto Bible, printed by Rowland Hall, at Goshen, in 1820. It was brought to this country in 1635, by George Eyre, and has been in the family record for seven generations, the first record being the birth of George Eyre in 1650. There is also a fine old engraving of the arrival of the Established Church and the Psalms of David. The Bible is in excellent preservation, notwithstanding, but the title page of the prayer book is missing.

Decatur has a new industrial establishment—a tile manufactory.

The Liquor Dealer's Association of Allentown have resolved that all the hotels and saloons in that place shall hereafter be closed on Sunday.

A Lewistown man has read the Bible through forty-one times—on the last occasion since the first of January, in eighty-four days.

The Lancaster *Express* charged that there was fraud in the management of the county prison. The prison inspectors have just concluded an investigation of the affairs of the institution, and report that the charges are groundless.

A young fool in Williamsport tried to swallow a billiard ball, the other day. He got it into his mouth, and medical assistance had to be called in to get it out.

Union city, Erie county, is soon to have a paint factory.

A man living in one of the rural districts of Erie county, disgusted with the people for voting against license proposes to petition the Legislature to annex the western half of the county to Erie and the eastern half to Corry, "so that all the citizens of the county shall be compelled to go where they will be able to say 'one country and swel iager.'"

Seth T. Hurd, editor of the Brownsville *Clipper*, was in his youth a playmate of Vice President Wilson, then apprenticed to a shoemaker in Natick, Mass., and now the two are strong in the confidence of the appointee of the financial policy of his administration, as expressed by the popular vote, and of his duty to adhere to it under all circumstances. He steadily refused to see any force in the objections that he might have made to the policy of others on this point, or to comprehend that there was any necessary connection between the result of the Presidential contest and Mr. Boutwell's peculiar plans of financiering. He certainly did not seem impressed with the idea that he owes his re-election to the ex-Secretary's superior management of the national finances, and of the obligations imposed upon him to carry it out in all its details during the next four years of his administration.

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LOCAL OPTION.

The Vote For and Against License.

The Majority in the State For License 17,572.

We give below a tabular statement of the vote in the counties and cities of the State on the question of license or no license:

	For.	Against.
Adams	613	....
Allegheny	10,488	....
Armstrong	....	750
Beaver	....	1,200
Bedford	....	156
Berks	8,229	....
Blair	....	2,422
Bradford	....	2,246
Bucks	5,265	....
Butler	....	699
Cambria	44	....
Carbon	1,141	....
Centre	....	1,438
Chester	....	2,191
Clarion	....	231
Clearfield	....	900
Clinton	....	498
Columbia	748	441
Crawford	524	....
Cumberland	....	756
Dauphin	1,309	....
Delaware	....	215
Elk	721	....
Erie	756	....
Fayette	....	2,07
Franklin	....	85
Fulton	273	....
Forest	2	....
Greene	....	1,300
Huntingdon	....	1,170
Indiana	....	948
Jefferson	....	1,200
Juniata	....	779
Luzerne	1,743	....
Lancaster	3,080	....
Lawrence	....	1,697
Lebanon	2,274	....
Lehigh	4,245	....
Lycoming	....	1,299
M'Kean	....	123
Mercer	....	977
Mifflin	....	878
Monroe	691	....
Montgomery	4,296	....
Montour	....	102
Northampton	4,824	....
Northumberland	271	....
Perry	....	579
Pike	341	....
Schuylkill	5,336	....
Somerset	....	316
Susquehanna	....	1,842
Sullivan	164	....
Snyder	945	....
Tioga	....	1,200
Union	....	238
Venango	....	1,382
Warren	....	934
Washington	....	1,682
Wayne	331	....
Westmoreland	....	724
Wyoming	....	1,437
York	1,894	....
	58,921	
	36,771	

Majority for license 22,050

The cities of Pennsylvania are included in the foregoing table of counties. The majorities in them are as follows:

	For.	Against.
Allegheny	2,305	....
Allentown	337	....
Altoona	....	933
Carbondale	52	....
Chester	200	....
Corry	240	....
Erie	1,321	....
Harrisburg	68	....
Lock Haven	178	....
Lancaster	1,706	....
Meadville	528	....
Pittsburgh	4,734	....
Reading	1,715	....
Scranton	1,246	....
Titusville	582	....
Williamsport	....	850
Wilkesbarre	573	....
	17,572	1,783

The counties omitted in the above table are Philadelphia and Potter, the former of which votes in October, and the latter having years ago decided in favor of the policy by a majority against prohibition in all the counties of the State in 1854 was over 5,000, as follows:

VOTE ON THE PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW IN 1854.

COUNTIES	Proh. Law. For.	Proh. Law. Against.	Majorities. For.	Majorities. Against.
Adams	1,195	2,584		1,348
Allegheny	10,032	4,054	5,978	
Armstrong	1,292	1,711	611	
Beaver	1,005	1,089		866
Bedford	1,329	2,438		1,109
Berks	2,612	10,599	611	7,987
Blair	2,253	1,143	1,110	
Bradford	4,582	1,672	2,910	2,680
Bucks	5,778	3,679		2,101
Butler	2,501	2,292	209	
Cambria	1,292	1,209	83	
Carbon	668	1,079	414	
Centre	1,435	1,992		557
Chester	5,508	3,830	1,678	
Clarion	2,148	1,567	581	
Clearfield	1,274	963	311	
Clinton	1,141	739	411	
Columbia	1,988	1,917		931
Crawford	2,994	1,135	859	
Cumberland	2,926	3,210		884
Dauphin	3,476	3,803		973
Delaware	1,729	1,100	629	
Elk	307	282		25
Erie	2,767	1,861	1,056	
Fayette	3,493	1,493	1,800	
Franklin	3,759	3,141	618	
Fulton	426	832		406
Greene	1,188	1,782		594
Huntingdon	2,169	1,294	875	
Indiana	2,568	1,338	1,230	
Jefferson	1,585	1,010	575	
Juniata	1,248	1,117	131	
Lancaster	5,536	9,969		3,433
Lawrence	2,258	1,250	1,008	
Lebanon	1,091	2,724		1,633
Lehigh	3,437	6,394		2,957
Luzerne	4,383	4,206	1,014	
Lycoming	2,309	1,889	420	
M'Kean	415	191	76	
Mercer	2,953	1,846	1,139	
Mifflin	1,296	880	416	
Monroe	1,042	1,186		1,144
Montgomery	3,819	5,789		1,970
Montour	431	393	38	
Northampton	1,411	5,090		3,682
Northumberland	1,824	1,980		756
Perry	1,297	1,939		642
Philadelphia	25,330	20,570	4,760	
Pike	611	695		916
Potter	610	550	63	
Schuylkill	2,762	5,626		2,864
Snyder	1,740	864	98	
Susquehanna	2,640	1,525	1,115	
Sullivan	1,393	1,443		50
Somerset	2,041	1,576	465	
Union	1,440	2,614		1,174
Venango	2,766	1,762	1,004	
Warren	1,273	975	298	
Washington	4,476	2,572	1,704	
Wayne	1,756	1,150	606	
Westmoreland	3,346	2,236	1110	
Wyoming	1,491	1,969		582
York	2,386	5,304		2,968
	158,342	164,510		

Majority against